£500

FCOMPUTER

of First Steps
software.
See page
58

FIRST NEWS • FIRST REVIEWS • BEST BUYS • YOUR WEEKLY GUIDE

### THIS WEEK

### AMIGA

A genlock for under £150, and it's available in the UK

### ATARI

Revealed: the latest music software for the ST

### PC

100Mb of data on a one inch disk **PLUS** a 386 for £900

### MACINTOSH

The first Macintosh clones are on the horizon

### GAMES

Chuck Rock reviewed PLUS
Tips for Car-Vup and more!

### PLUS

REGULAR COLUMNS ON PROGRAMMING PD SOFTWARE TECH TIPS ELECTRONICS & 36 PAGES OF

SHOPPING

BARGAINS !!!

# RIPEOFF

THE GREAT DOOR TO DOOR DEBACLE

Now the full story can be told

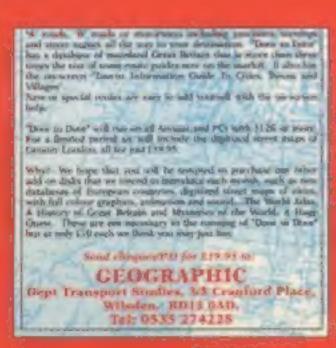
'Missing' money
 Unpaid bills



And the man who disappeared without trace

Pages 6, 7, 8 & 52

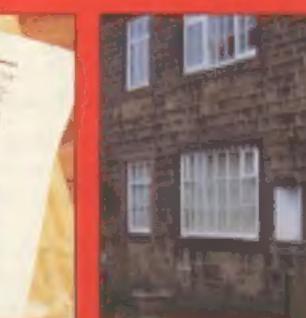
DOOR TO DOOR



The Pitch



The Product



The Place



The People



### FUTURE COMPUTERS:

Is your keyboard obsolete? New input devices on test. Page 54

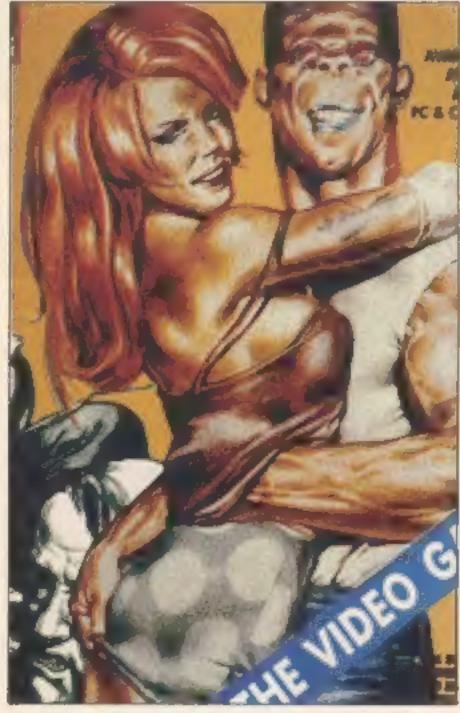


### AMIGA 1500

Commodore's redesigned A2000 put through its paces. Page 10



# FIGORICANDO edited by Colin Campbell



The use of cheap sexual imagery for the promotion of computer software has once again incurred the wrath of the influential Advertising Standards Authority.

In its latest monthly report, the ASA details two advertisements for computer software which have caused offence to members of the public. French games publisher Ubisoft and London based business software house Morse Computers have been ticked off for ads which had prompted protest from readers.

### SOFTWARE SEX ADS RUMPUS

The Ubisoft ad appeared in various computer games magazines late last year promoting the title Ranx. Headed 'Your mother wouldn't like it' the page featured a

cartoon illustration of a man and a woman in an embrace, the man fondling the woman's buttocks. The complainants considered this to be offensive especially since the target audience is predominantly teenagers.

Ubisoft has apologised for causing offence but added that the ad was meant to be "saucy" rather than indecent. The illustration had been culled from the cover of an American cult magazine on which the game was based. The ASA stated that Ubisoft would be "well advised"

to reconsider its use" in future advertising campaigns.

Campaigns targeting juveniles aren't the only ones to cause offense. Morse Computers was also hauled up for its ad in *The Independent* stating: "My Electronic Secretary likes to sit on my knee." The text was accompanied by a graph with its lines depicting the outline of a naked woman on her back.

Morse claimed that the ad was "tongue in cheek" but admitted that he thought it could be seen as offensive. The ASA concluded that the ad conveyed "unnecessary innuendo" and requested Morse not to run the campaign again.

Other companies pointed out for sexist advertising in the past include highly respected business software publisher Sage and top games producer US Gold.

### Oh Brother — Titus ties up Blues boys



A computer game based on mega-successful musical movie The Blues Brothers is set to take centre stage later this year.

French company Titus splashed out on the big-name licence, and is expected to cash in by launching on all available formats. The game will stick closely a the plot of the 1980 movie with plenty of action sequences and car chases.

The film cost \$33 million to make (mainly spent on wasted automobiles), and although stars Dan Akroyd and John Belushi failed to attract cinema goers of the day, the flick built up a phenomenal following throughout the video boom.

A spokesman for Titus said: "The Blues Brothers is a hugely popular licence and it is known around the world. I don't know of anyone who hasn't heard of it and I'm sure it will have retained in appeal."

### Compatible communication

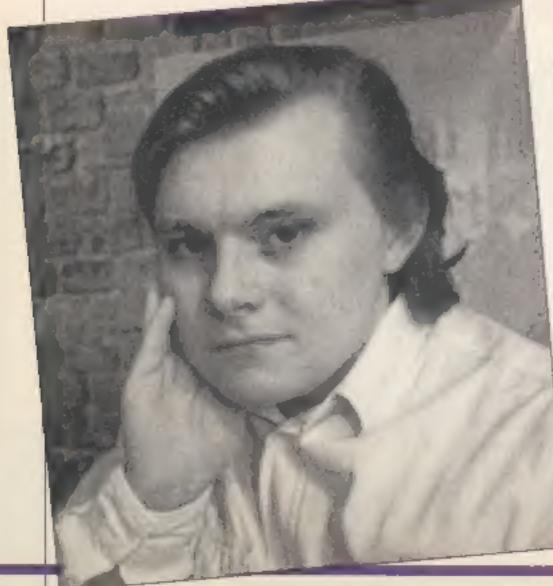
Six of the world's top computer companies have teamed up to produce an electronic messaging software standard which will allow incompatible computer systems to communicate with each other.

The Open Document
Architecture Consortium
(ODAC) wants to develop a
software toolkit which will allow

users to transmit entire
documents between differing
computer standards. In this way
not only text, but also images
can be passed between
computers without the need for
reformatting or re-typing.

The big names involved are ICL, IBM, Bull, Dec, Unisys and Siemens Nixdorf, who reckon their plans will come to fruition by 1993.

### 'Mad hacker's' bid to start a new life



The Mad Hacker was released from prison two weeks ago and came out with a defiant message for the authorities. He is planning to fight to clear his name.

Nicholas Whiteley was the first person in Britain to be jailed for computer hacking after he had broken into a university computer network and caused criminal damage to data on the system. During the 1988 break-in he had left messages proclaiming that the "Mad Hacker" had made his mark.

Despite serving a two month sentence he still protests that he has broken no laws, arguing that it is impossible to damage something as intangible as computer data. In an attempt to resurrect his shattered career he plans to make an appeal to the House of Lords. However, he admits that his chances of even being granted a hearing are slim.

"But," he adds, "I have no choice. Just because I have done my prison sentence it does not make the decision any more just. They have thrown everything at me. They've dragged me through the courts, they have shut me behind bars and they've screwed up my career. I cannot start my life again until I have cleared my name."

Whiteley, 22, must go back to the Criminal Appeal Court to plead his case, but that court has already rejected his arguments (Express 118). If the court is satisfied that the law has been followed properly, Whiteley's cause will be lost.



### IBM chiefs stack up their salaries

IBM's top brass have much to worry about in these dark and troubled times. It seems that a recent decision to axe 14,000 jobs caused Big Blue chiefs so much trauma that they have awarded themselves fat new pay packages to help them get over it.

Company chairman John Akers' salary has been increased to \$2.6 million a year – up a not unimpressive 35 per cent on his 1989 rate. President Jack Kueler has received a 36 per cent boost; his wage packet is now stuffed with \$1.6 million. And senior vice president Frank Metz has been rewarded a 43 per cent rise, now totalling \$1.6 million.

IBM points out that senior staff pay is linked to company performance. Increases were in line with 1990's financial returns when earnings per share were up 16 per cent.

However, the company admits that performances will not be so hot this year. Profits for the first quarter of 1990 are expected to be half those of the same period last year. ■

### COMPUTER CATCHES OUT SCHOOLKIDS' TRUANCY

Computer smart cards have been issued to a class of 14year-old schoolboys in an attempt to keep a check on the movements of the pupils.

A third-year class M St George's Boys School in Southampton has been using the computer register system since last week. It has proved to be so successful that the scheme is to be used in more classes.

Instead of calling a register at the beginning of each class, the boys simply run their cards through one of 42 reader points situated around the school. The computer then records the whereabouts of the boys at any time of the day, and notes which lads are missing. Missing boys are tracked down and dealt with in a more traditional fashion.

David Caswell, headmaster of the 500-pupil secondary school, persuaded the governors to spend £10,000 on the Offcom Data Student Register System. He estimates that the school will recoup £11,000 worth of extra teaching time within one year.

"We'll be saving 20



minutes at the start of each day which will be spent on English and reading instead. That amounts to approximately 138 teacher days in a full year. However, truancy at St George's is not particularly a problem we have to deal with."

He says the system which is based around a Tandon IBM compatible PC - is technically flawless and that it gave boys "a lot more freedom to move around the school".

Thirteen-year-old pupil Philip Le Cheminant had no complaints after his first day: "We will think it's a good idea, and other classes are looking forward to getting the cards," he said. Pupils who mistay their smart cards must cough up £3 for a replacement.

Scott Hopkins of Dundee based Offcom agreed that the system could help control the growing truancy problem in Britain's schools. He told Express: "If a pupil is not at school the teachers know straight away, and they can deal with it very quickly."

### CONTENTS

Express goes on the trail of the people behind Geographic's Door to Door route finder -



possibly the worst program ever released. Is there any chance of getting a refund? - page 6

### REVIEWS



Amiga's family computer Will the Amiga 1500 make the 2000 redundant?

page 10

### ST sampling

Quartet has been upgraded, but how does it compete? - page 49

### Something you can talk to

Are the keyboard's days numbered? We look at future ways of using computers - page 54

### **EVERY WEEK**

News - pages 4-5

### **Games Week**

Hot tips and news, plus Chuck Rock review page 58



22

40

44

46

### Competition

The first part in our £5,000 software giveaway - page 58



Whole Wired 30 Letters World Mac CPC Tech Tips Circuit City Amiga C64

Archimedes 24 PD Column 26 On-line 27 Centrefold Spectrum ST Programming 47

### Crown's golden offer

Looking for a cheap 386? Saving frantically for a laser printer? Then check out Crown Computer Product's latest offer.

The Lancashire mail order outfit is selling Amstrad 386 PCs for £899, and buyers will be offered a slx page per minute laser for £499. Amstrad's 2386 which normally retails at £1,999 includes a mono monitor and features a 20MHz processor with a 65Mb hard disk. The Dataproducts LZR 650 laser would normally set you back £1,345. Find out more by calling Crown on 0704 895815.

### On the ball Rovers help programmer

Blackburn Rovers Football Club have come to the rescue of a new soccer computer game, after thieves broke into the home of the developer and stole his computer.

Greg Sibley, 33, had been working from home on a new game based on the English Football League. But his project looked to be doomed after burglars broke in and made away with his Amstrad PC1512.

Sibley visited local businesses in an appeal for help, and was finally rewarded by generous Rovers. He is being allowed to use one of the Second Division team's PCs for the next six months.

The joyful games

developer enthused: "I knew I'd find a sponsor one day. The game is going to be a classic and I see this as positive action by Rovers. At the moment I'm dealing with the shock of finding help, especially from my local football team."

Blackburn Rovers' commercial manager Ken Beamish said: "We 're pleased to help. There's the connection with football and Greg is a local man. He's welcome to use our computers."

Sibley's as yet unnamed game features all the teams in the football league, with the player having to work his way up from the bottom of the Fourth Division.

### Minute drives on the way

One inch 100Mb hard drives for notebook PCs look set for a mid 90s launch, while 1.8-inch hard drives could be here as early as next year.

Insiders at Hewlett Packard claim the company is already developing the technology, while according to analysts in the US, IBM is also working on a 1-inch drive.

A committee of manufacturers has already been set up to define the standard for 1.8-inch drives. But it appears the industry has already turned its attentions to the 1-inch drives. Many manufacturers are not so excited - they feel that if research into flash card technology and optical drives proves successful, it could make hard drives obsolete.

### Stick to your guns

Banging away on a joystick for hours on end can line extremely painful pastime if you haven't bought the right kit, so manufacturers are as keen as ever to stress the comfort value of their creations.

Logic 3, never a company to shy away from publicity, reckons its latest offering, the Manta-Ray, is "the most comfortable joystick known to man". Boss Ashvin Patel said: "In total, several million hand-held joysticks have been sold throughout the world. Thus there is a great deal of information about the perfect ergonomic shape to give maximum comfort. The Manta-Ray II the product of a considerable amount of data".

The standard model costs £12.99, the auto-fire £14.99, while Sega and Nintendo versions retail at £16.99. Phone 081-900 0024. ■



. Manta-Ray: cutting down on the pain

### Sega has holographic sights

A coin-op video game utilising holographic visual technology is to be launched by Sega later this year.

The company isn't prepared to talk about its newest marvel just yet, but it will be shown in the forthcoming American Coin Machine Exposition (ACME) in Las Vegas. Despite being a Japanese firm, Sega has relied on work undertaken in US universities over the past three years, and the new technology is understood to have been scooped from an American company.

Sega has been working on all manner of weird and wonderful

contraptions including Megadrive compatible IBM PC, due to be launched in the US any time now, and a 32-bit super games console for the home.

Holographic imagery is normally associated with science fiction films rather than video game arcades. A hologram is a two dimensional image which appears to have depth, and so any such arcade machine would give gamers three dimensional environment. Skillful programmers could even make images appear to come out of the screen. More details as they emerge...

# Dixons puts the odds on computers

Leading retail chain Dixons last week surprised the PC market by announcing it would be extending its chain of Business Centres.

The company is gambling on an increase in demand for low to medium priced business machines, peripherals and software, despite warnings that buyers are tightening their purse strings due to the recession.

Dixons is best known for selling everything from cameras and Walkmans to Hi-fis and TV sets, but computers have been figuring in the firm's plans more and more in recent years. The Business Centres can normally be found in the corner of larger stores such as Debenhams. They claim to help first-time buyers make the right choice.

Over the past few years Dixons has been closely associated with Amstrad, and, like the Brentwood manufacturer, has proved to be popular among small business buyers.

Dixons has increased the number of Business Centres by 30 per cent in the last 12 months with 114 currently up and running. Group commercial director Rupert Gavin reckons that figure could be closer to 160 by the end of this year.

Gavin admitted that selling PCs to first time users is not an easy job. "We have had a learning curve," he said. "At first we didn't get the software right. Now we match up computers, printers and software to supply packages for specific uses, whether that be for financial spreadsheets, word processing or for desktop publishing."

He also predicted that the chain could be making radical price reductions before Autumn this year.

### Dixons puts Is Apple about to reveal its technical secrets?

# SEND IN TOUR CLONES

Apple has hinted that it may be ready to license out its prized Macintosh operating system to third parties, thus allowing companies to produce Macintosh clones.

Apple chairman John Sculley told assembled journalists at the first MacWorld event in Tokyo that he is "discussing" sharing the company's jealously guarded



 Apple chairman, John Sculley – alming to make the Mac an industry machine.

technical secrets. If so, independent manufacturers could build their own Macintosh compatible machines in the same way that companies currently build IBM compatibles.

On his return to the United States, Sculley told the Software Publishers Association that Apple would be aiming to make the Macintosh an industry standard. "I'm talking about an open system that doesn't penalise the user in terms of hardware," he commented.

Officials at Apple have been keen to play down the significance of Sculley's remarks. A spokesman pointed out that the company "has never announced any plans to license the Macintosh operating system".

Even so, the Japanese left Tokyo MacWorld with an doubts as to Sculley's intentions. The



Macintosh: other firms could be copying Apple's marvellous operating system.

Nippon Kogo daily newspaper reported: "Apple considers opening up the Macintosh as its top priority issue. As part of the scheme, Apple wants to share its technology with the industry."

Sculley's hints follow the announcement by Californian company NuTek Computers that it has managed to clone the Macintosh without breaking any of Apple's notoriously stringent copyrights (Express 121).

NuTek in confident that it has foiled Apple's lawyers, and this may have prompted Apple to take third party licensing into its own hands.

If Apple does strike up deals with third party manufacturers, then buyers can expect to be offered Mac compatibles at extremely competitive prices.

In his latest round of conference and show hopping, Sculley also revealed that the company would be launching more High Street orientated Macs in the same vein as the Classic. This is in addition to the long awaited Mac notebooks and the RISC based Mac.

### Carry-I OK for tiny 386

It's not a portable, but it is simple to move around.

That's the verdict on Lotay's forthcoming small footprint
PC. The company is planning to launch a 36SX version
of its Carry- I PC at next month's Which Computer?

Show next week, boasting a low price tag of £1,399.

Carry-I 386SX will run at 16MHz and will come with 2Mb of RAM on board with a 40Mb hard disk and mono monitor. In comparison, Amstrad's recently launched small footprint 386SX PC retails at £1,495.

Lotay also reckons it is the smallest IBM compatible desktop PC around; it measures 29.7cm x 15.2cm x 3cm. The machine also comes with a one year warranty. Call 081-963 1919. ■



Carry-I 386: size is important.

### **Look into Windows**

An introduction and training video for new users of Microsoft's Windows 3 environment has been launched.

Windows 3 on Display teaches users everything involved in making the most of Windows applications and, according to publisher Comput-Ed it is: "Easy to watch, with a touch of humour. Screen shots are rock steady and the frequent use of close-ups and examples makes it easy to see what is actually happening."

Windows 3 on Display will set you back £39 plus £2 p&p. Call 0626 866247. ■

Did Kid Icarus ruin a teenage girl's health?

# NINTENDO BLAMED FOR EPILEPSY FIT

Nintendo US is being sued by the parents of a 15-year-old girl who suffered an epileptic seizure while playing Kid icarus.

Lawyers for the Michigan family claim to have documents from the girl's doctor which prove that the attack was caused by playing the game. The lawyers say that before the attack she was perfectly healthy, but will now probably have to stay on medication for the rest of her life.

Nintendo has not yet made an official statement concerning the case, but a spokeswoman told Express that the company is treating it as a case of photosensitive epilepsy. This is a condition which in the past has been connected with sustained television watching or intensive work with computer monitors.

"It is not a problem particularly linked with video game playing," said the spokeswoman, "likely sufferers should monitor their game playing carefully."

Nintendo has captured a massive 80 per cent of the video game market in the US and 35 per cent of American homes own a Nintendo Entertainment Sys-

tem. This is believed to be the first case of photo-sensitive epilepsy to be induced by a video game, but Nintendo denies that it is being complacent.

"Nintendo is very concerned about the effects of its games on consumers," we were told.

Lawyers for the girl, who as a minor cannot be named, are vowing that, "you're going to see a lot more of this."

### **MASSIVE REFUND**

Meanwhile, Nintendo has agreed to re-imburse its US customers with up to \$25 million (£14 million) worth of vouchers rather than face a federal trial over its alleged price fixing.

The suit, which was brought against the company by the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) and more than 30 States, charges Nintendo with artificially maintaining the price of the Nintendo Entertainment System (NES) at \$99.99 by threatening to slow down or cut off supplies to retailers selling it for less.

To prevent a long and complicated trial Nintendo and the FTC have reached a settlement whereby anyone who bought an NES between June 1988 and



 NES: video game playing could damage your health, but Nintendo has not yet made an official statement.

December 1990 in any of the states involved in the suit can claim a \$5 "instant redemption certificate" from Nintendo. The company has also agreed to pay the states \$4.75 million towards the cost of administrating the refunding program.

New York's Attorney General, Abrams, Robert accused Nintendo of wanting to: "Extract every last ounce of profit".

However, Nintendo has not admitted to the allegations. Howard Lincoln, Nintendo's vice president, claims the company has agreed to the settlement because: "Quite frankly we were concerned with how Nintendo game players might view these allegations. We opted to get this behind the company immediately and in a manner that provides real value to our consumers."

### $E = MC^2$ - maybe

Einstein was wrong according to a supercomputer at Cornell University in the US.

The computer has been used to simulate gravitational collapse and has produced results which refute the famous scientist's theory of relativity.

Based on the theory of relativity, the simulation shows what will happen if a huge cloud of particles shaped like a rugby ball collapsed in on itself. The result is thin needles of infinite density and gravitational force at its pointed ends, called "naked singularities".

According to our present knowledge of the universe these points do not exist, so the researchers reckon that the theories of relativity must be incorrect.

"If the theory says they exist, something is wrong with the theory," concluded co-project developer Stuart Shapiro. The project has taken three years to develop and a typical simulation can take almost a day.



 Hewson: yesterday's manager becomes 21st Century man.

### Air crashes on CD



CD-ROMS could now help avoid future disasters.

Details of air crashes and other in-flight disasters culled from US Federal Aviation Administration computers are being released on two CD-ROM disks.

The Service Difficulty Report (SDR) Disk and the Accident Incident Data disk are being released for both Macintosh and MS-DOS systems by Flightline Electronic Publishing later this month. They have been compiled from files which date back to 1970 and cover all information on American commercial flights.

An SDR includes such occur-

rences as in-flight engine failure while events on the Accident disk are those which either resulted in over \$10,000 worth of damage or human injury. The CDs will feature official and technical reports on such notorious disasters as Locherbie and Colorado.

The disks cost \$395 for a single copy or \$1,295 for an annual subscription of four updates. The company also publishes CD-ROM disks of the American Aviation Compendium and the Federal Regulations/Airman Information Manual, Tel 0101 215-993-8117.

In next week's Express, we'll be revealing exclusive details of the most amazing piece of kit you'll see this year. Don't miss it.

### Facing up to the past

If you think this guy looks bad now, you should have seen him five years ago. Then he was a little more than a cracked skull buried beneath seven feet of accumilated muck. For this is the reconstruction of a Viking man who died a thousand years ago. The remains of his skull were analysed by a computer, which stretched a new face over the brittle bone.

'Eymund' was a fisherman living in the York area who died a thousand years ago, aged about 30. His remains were dragged

out of the mud five years ago, when the project to rebuild him began. The skull was first laser scanned at University College Hospital in London with equipment normally used for facial surgery. A laser beam measured the skull white its contours were recorded by a video camera connected to a powerful mainframe computer. A computer controlled milling machine then cut out a 3D head before the artificial skin was stretched over. Dr Peter Addyman, Archaelogical Trust director commented: "Eymund is unnervingly real. It's staggering to meet a thousand-year-old face like this. Computers have made it authentic." ● You can see Eymund at York Archaelogical Trust, 1 Pavement, York.



### Hewson returns

software games house Hewson re-emerged from the pit of adminstrative receivership under a new name last week.

As reported in Express 124, the official receiver "hoped someone would step in and buy the firm as a going concern".

Nextgrand, trading under the name 21st Century Entertainment has done just this. Not only does this put one of Britain's best known publishers back on the scene, it also returns industry veteran Andrew Hewson as director of a software house.

According to 21st Century, the new firm "is financed by local businesses with interests ranging from computers to car distribution and property development". The plan is to consolidate Hewson's tried and tested markets here and abroad.

What this means in terms of new developments and the first game release has yet to be seen, as is the position of Hewson's creditors.

### THE STRANGE TALE OF THE UNIVER'S PLANNING PACKAGE AND THE £20,

Two months ago, advertisements began to appear in the computer press for a route planning program for the PC and Commodore Amiga. According to these advertisements the product, Door to Door, offered a host of innovative facilities for £19.95 - including ('For a limited period') digitised street maps of inner London. A monthly schedule of add-on modules for the package was outlined, priced at a modest £10 each.

In a telephone conversation with Express staffer Keith Pomfret, John Gold – the man who booked those advertising pages for Geographic - claimed that Door to

s we revealed in Express 127, Door to Door only outshone its rivals in its inability to live up the claims made for it. Soon after the first advertisement appeared in the pages of writing to our offices expressing their dismay at the quality of the product.

They were unhappy about the dismal performance of the Geographic software, incensed at the lack of documentation and annoyed that the digitised maps of inner London were not supplied as the advertising copy had promised. Our readers were unanimous - Door to Door was rubbish.

In conversations with Keith Pomfret, our technical editor, John Gold had claimed that Door to Door was much better than all its rivals. A review copy would be sent, and we 'would be impressed he asserted. This was the first promise that John Gold reneged on - a review copy never materialised. In the end, for the review in Express 127 we used a copy of the program that one

of our readers, Michael Bromley, lent us - when we telephoned to ask if he wanted it back, Michael told us to keep it: "It's no use to me," he exclaimed!

While it seems that the majority of Express, readers began telephoning and Geographic's customers at least received something, others weren't so lucky. Their cheques were cashed and nothing was sent in return. Others returned the product asking for a refund - and a few were successful. But then the telephone number quoted in the advertisement was discontinued, and post sent to Geographic at 'Dept of Transport Studies, 3/5 Cranford Place, Wilsden' was no longer accepted.

Something was going wrong.

Early in March, the Express advertising department received what appeared to be a circular letter from Geographic to the magazines in which it had booked advertising space. 'Ex 5/6 Cranford Place, West Yorkshire' appeared as the address (rather than 3/5 Cranford Place as on the adverts) and although the letter was not signed by

Door would outshine all its rivals. But the reality was different.

Today, the telephone number given on the Geographic advertisements has been discontinued. The advertising bills have not been paid. Hundreds of Geographic's customers have been left disgruntled, or out of pocket. And no-one we contacted would or could tell us where John Gold is now.

The full story behind Geographic and Door to Door is remarkably complex. As Express started to investigate, a tangled web of incompetence, naiveté, confusion and mis-representation began to unravel...

hand, the name 'John Gold' was typed at the foot of the page. This is what it said:

Due to the appalling manners of a few of those readers who responded to our advert in your magazine, we have been obliged to change the telephone number and address on our future advertising.

We were permitted to use this private address until we had established

"In my opinion, Door to Door is quite the worst piece of software I have ever come across in my life."

ourselves. We have been told this cannot continue, primarily due to the above mentioned matter.

Could you please note that as of now we are not accepting any further orders until we have arranged new premises. We will inform you when this happens. Please stop all advertising as of 9/3/91.

That was five weeks ago. Apparently because a few people were rude on the telephone, John Gold and Geographic have effectively disappeared - he has still not advised Express (or, it would appear, any of the other magazines in which he took advertising space) of his current whereabouts. Nor has he paid his advertising bills - liabilities which amount to at least £7,500.

Nor has he taken any action to explain to new or existing customers why post is no longer being accepted at the original address. If you purchased a copy of Door to Door, and want to complain or ask for m refund there is currently no point in writing to Geographic at Cranford Place. Your letter will simply be returned by the Post Office - it does not

have a forwarding address, and the people at 3/5 (or even 5/6 Cranford Place) are not accepting mail for Geographic.

#### **ROAD TO RUIN**

In its advertising, Geographic described Door to Door as a route finder and route planner that would 'plan your journey from door to door'. The firm claimed that the program would take you through inner city streets, and tempted buyers with the promise of regular monthly updates including European databases, graphics, animation and sound, a world atlas, history of Great Britain, and 'mysteries of the world'. 'New or special routes are easy to add yourself with the on-screen help', the advertising copy gushed.

The program that Geographic sent out bore almost no resemblance to the claims in the flashy advertising. It offered a simple text-only display that suggested routes so badly flawed that if you were daft enough to follow one to the letter, you'd more than likely end up taking a journey that involved travelling two or three times the necessary distance.

The litany of complaints we received from our readers came from all over the country. Our correspondents were unanimous in their condemnation of Door to Door - so far, we haven't received a single letter of praise for the product, despite asking people in the letters page (Express 125) to tell us if they liked it. Here's a sample from our files:

Mr D Nisbet of Dublin: "The routes it suggested took twice as long as necessary." P Harvey: "The free digitised street maps have still not arrived." Michael Bromley, who supplied us a copy for review told us: "I will be very interested in your opinion of this package but remember, it feels worse when you have paid for it." Geoff Cope from Cornwall: "The program did very little to justify the claims listed in the advert," he said. Thomas Hammond from Devon: "I have



Geographic's unwitting bankers

We contacted the branch of Midland Bank that held the account through which it appears most, if not all, of the chaques payable to Geographic were cleared. A spokesman explained that if nothing is untoward in an account, the bank has no reason to examine it - and attention is only drawn to an account when unusually large lump sums move in or out of it.

### SITY DOCTOR, THE ROUTE 0,000 SOFTWARE STING...



sent it back for a refund under the Sale of Goods Act." Robert Whitrow in West Glamorgan got nothing at all: "My cheque was cashed on February 20 and I haven't received the software," he complained, the last time we spoke to him — on 7th April — he still hadn't received anything from Geographic.

"I too have been seemingly conned by this company," said PL Croud of Southend. Mr K Roper from Suffolk wished us well in our hunt: "I hope you have more success in your attempts to contact Geographic than I did," he wrote.

Marios Charalambides from London wrote: "The product would cause great disappointment had it been purchased from a PD library." Another Londoner, L Poullos, pointed out that: "It fails to recognise towns and I haven't received the digitised maps".

Malcolm Allsop of Anglia Television summed up the general feeling: "In my opinion it is quite the worst piece of software I have ever come across in my life," he said. While Brian Hogwood wouldn't have accepted it as a gift: "It is not worth giving away free," he told us.

### THE TRAIL HOTS UP

By now, if you dialled the phone number for Geographic given in the adverts, all you got was the 'unobtainable' tone. Call the operator, and Telecom would confirm that the number was a spare line.

Some readers travelled to the address given in the advertisements, only to be told that Geographic had moved away. One reader told us in a letter: "I went and knocked on the door, and what I thought was a very nervous young lady answered. She hardly opened the door. When I asked about Geographic she told me very nervously that they had moved to bigger premises and had a new phone number ... she

said that if I contacted the magazine 'Computer Express' they would give me the **new** telephone number".

Who was this woman, we wondered. And what had given her the idea that Express would have the new telephone number for Geographic?

So Express decided to send Keith Pomfret on the trail of the elusive John Gold and Geographic. We wanted to know:

- How could Geographic make such outrageous claims for such an obviously flawed product?
- Why had the phone number and address been changed without adequate warning?
- Where was John Gold and was Geographic still trading?
- ◆ What had become of all the cheques for £19.95 – was there any chance of disgruntled customers receiving a refund?

Around the time he was placing orders for advertising space, John Gold told Keith Pomfret that Door to Door was "a revolutionary product at a price people can afford," adding: "It's been developed in the Department of Transport Studies by a Doctor Watson and her team." Despite clearly implying that an academic department had been involved in the creation of Door to Door, Gold refused to reveal the whereabouts of his programming team, or allow us to talk to any of them.

But how to find Dr Watson? Elementary – if she existed, a programme of telephone calls to universities and polytechnics across the country would reveal the whereabouts of John Gold's developer. This was the best lead we had... until one of our readers located Dr Susan Watson by asking his bank to



 The sa-called 'Dept Transport Studies' which Geographic used at its base. In reality, a modest terraced house in Cranford Place, Wilsden, West Yorkshire.

find out who had cashed his cheque for £19.95 made out to 'Geographic'.

### THE GOOD DOCTOR

Our reader was told by his bank that the cheque had been paid into the account bearing the name of Miss S. M. Watson, and that the transaction had taken place at the University Branch of Midland Bank in Leeds.

that a Dr Watson was on the staff of the Institute of Transport Studies. Express contacted Dr Susan Watson at the Institute and asked her about Door to Door and Geographic. She claimed that she had never heard of Geographic or of Door to Door.

She insisted that she had no connection with Geographic and when she was told that we wished to speak to her head of department, she at first refused to give us his name. The conversation ended there.

Dialling the university switchboard put us in contact with Professor May,

head of the Institute of Transport Studies who said that he had nothing to do with the matter, and that it had nothing to do with the Institute.

Professor May wrote immediately to Express confirming that there was no official involvement between the Institute and Geographic. He also informed us that, as he was about to go abroad, he was putting the matter in the hands of his colleagues, Professor Nash and Mr Howard Kirby. So we spoke to them,

### Dr Watson claimed that she had never heard of Geographic or *Door to Door*

explaining the sorry tale of *Door to Door* and Geographic as we saw it. We pointed out that there would appear to be several clear links between the program, the company promoting it, and Dr Susan Watson.

Kirkby then spoke to Dr Watson who apparently confirmed to him that she had been involved with Geographic in a "minor" capacity.

So Dr Susan Watson had changed her story... She agreed to talk to Express again. She telephoned Keith Pomfret, and was clearly in an emotional state. She explained that:

- She was not a programmer and only did administrative work for Mr Gold at Geographic, typing replies to letters and so on.
- He had originally contacted her 'out of the blue'. "This happens all the time," she added. "I've had other people in touch with me about doing bits of work".
- That "probably about five

### ON THE TRAIL OF THE MISSING DIGITAL DATA FILES

In the PC version of *Door to Door*, the absence of the digitised maps was explained in a Read.me file, which told the purchaser:

DUE TO ORDNANCE SURVEY COPYRIGHT, THE LONDON DIGITISED MAPS THAT ARE GIVEN FREE WILL BE DELAYED FOR A SHORT WHILE AND THEN SENT ON TO YOU.

Was Geographic the innocent victim of slow-grinding bureaucracy? Was John Gold forced to break his promise to customers and send out an incomplete product as a result of factors outside his control?

We contacted Ordnance Survey Copyright Manager Robin Knights who told us: "We've seen their advertising and we're trying to contact them too. They haven't, to my knowledge, been in touch to try and licence the digitised map data from us." Knights explained that in order to use Ordnance Survey digital data, a company has to apply for a licence stating the purpose, the area covered and whether data needed for an inhouse or end-user product. A one-off 'mastering' fee must be paid for each area used, and a further fee paid for each licensed package sold. In turn, the end-user must also register – the company publishing the product is obliged to pass a register of customers to Ordnance Survey.

According to the records to which Robin Knights has access, Geographic neither contacted nor tried to contact Ordnance Survey about digital mapping. The only trace of Geographic (Dept Transport Studies) that Knights could find in the files is a copy of a letter the Ordnance Survey Copyright Department sent to Geographic. In common with a lot of other people, they have yet to receive a reply...



people were involved" - but that she had never really met them. Apparently "they could be in trouble with their jobs - for doing extra work - it was confidential". She had recently lost contact with John Gold.

She continued: "I feel as if I've been thrown to the flipping sharks. He's gone and I've no way of getting in touch with him. I hadn't met the man before. All I

### ... we didn't realise it at the time, but John Gold was speaking to us from Dr Susan Watson's home telephone.

did was look at the program and offer advice, but I'm not a programmer".

Then we asked Dr Watson to put a 'ball park figure' on the value of Geographic cheques she had processed through her account. She replied: "Perhaps £10,000... I don't know".

She went on to describe the mysterious Mr Gold: "He's between 40 and 55 years old, about six feet tall, of average build, with a receding hairline, European in appearance and well dressed." She added that he drove a large silver or blue saloon car, he didn't wear glasses and he was clean shaven.

We asked Dr Susan Watson if she would give us her new, ex-directory telephone number in case we wished to contact her again to clarify any points, but she refused.

### LETTER FROM THE INSTITUTE

We then received a letter from Howard Kirby, the assistant director of research at Leeds University's Institute for Transport Studies. He was at pains to point out that: 'the Institute has had no involvement with the Door to Door software; neither has it had any knowledge of or direct dealings with the organisation advertising that product, or with the person named by you as Mr Gold."

The letter also stressed that Dr Watson had made it clear to Mr Gold that she was acting in her own time, that the Institute was not involved and that her involvement was limited to providing some administrative assistance and technical advice.

John Gold told us a different story when he was still in contact with Express - we didn't realise it at the time, but he was speaking to us from Dr Watson's home telephone. He told us that the software had been developed by 'Dr Watson and her team'.

Kirby's letter asserted that Dr Watson's association with Geographic 'was whilst she was not employed by the Institute/University' - but also stated that she has been employed by the Institute since January this year.

Kirby is clearly mistaken in this belief. Dr Watson has been associated quite closely with Geographic since January this year - on at least three counts:

> 1) By her own admission, Dr Susan Watson had processed cheques on behalf of Geographic since January - the first ads for Door to Door appeared in February.

2) When John Gold placed some £4,500 worth of advertising with Future Publishing magazines he used Dr Susan Watson's home telephone number at the Cranford Place address to receive calls from advertising sales people. It also seems likely that he made the bookings from that phone. 3) Before he 'disappeared', it was possible to contact John Gold on

Dr Susan Watson's home telephone number.

In his letter, Howard Kirby re-emphasised Dr Watson's own statement that, without success, she had been attempt-

Swindon

As we said in Express 127, buyers expecting a competent roote finding program with digitised maps were disappointed by Door to Door. We asked the program to get us from Swindon to Stroud: a simple journey west along the A419 trunk route. The route that Door to Door offered took us out of Swindon in the opposite direction and after a trip around the West Country past Bristol and nearly to the Severn Bridge, eventually deposited us in Straud via the M5 and A419 from Gloucestershire.



A real Transport Studies department - or Institute to be more accurate. A spokesman for Leeds University's Institute stated that they have had no involvement in Door to Door, nor any knowledge of, or direct dealings with the organisation advertising the product, nor with the person we named as Mr Gold.

ing to find a forwarding address for Mr Gold. Kirby also asked us to raise any further points with the director of the eye on Susie (Dr Watson) while he was away on business'.

So we asked them to describe the

"I feel as if I have been thrown to the flipping sharks. He's gone, and I've no way of getting in touch with him. I hadn't met the man before. All I did was look at the program and offer advice, but I'm not a programmer."

Dr Susan Watson, (referring to John Gold).

Institute of Transport Studies, Professor Nash, or himself, explaining: 'This is not because we have any responsibility for the product or organisation you are trying to trace, but because, as her current employer, we wish to ensure that our staff are not unduly harassed'.

We were no closer to tracing the elusive John Gold, but the scope for teleenquiries seemed phone exhausted. It was time to fire up our copy of Door to Door, ask it for a route from Bath to Cranford Place, Wilsden, ignore it, get out the £5 map book, leap in the car, drive to Yorkshire and talk to some people face to face.

### A VISIT TO YORKSHIRE

3/5 Cranford Place is part of an unassuming terrace of cottages in the heart of the industrial North.

We banged on the front door, the door through which all those cheques for £19.95 had popped - but there was no reply. The blinds remained firmly drawn and the house was apparently unoccupied. Not unusual for mid-morning maybe everyone was out at work.

Next door to 3/5 Cranford place is 'The Tuckshop', a traditional comer shop, so we popped in to ask a few questions. We weren't the first people to mention the name 'Geographic' in the shop - it seems quite a few customers of Geographic had trodden the same

Mr and Mrs Raby, the proprietors told us that they knew Dr Watson and John Gold - indeed, they told us that Mr Gold had once asked them to 'keep an

man they knew as John Gold. They said that he

- Is between 30 and 35 years old, is about 5 feet 6 inches tall, wears glasses, is swarthy, stocky and suave, has a scruffy-looking beard and is East Mediterranean in appearance.
- Had visited Dr Watson for over a year. Since Christmas he had been in attendance regularly, remaining for days at a time, Sometimes his white, W-registered Saab sports saloon with a prominent green stripe

Now turn to Page 52 ➤

### FOR THE AMIGA AND PC AT AN INCOMPARABLE PRICE OF £19.95!!!!

An expert sesson "door to door" routelinder/planner for £19.95. Unlike any other it will take you from your home or business through the orners of vone town city or village to anywhere you house. Use for beamers (delivering pick-ups, selling) or pleasure espring 'Dear to Bore' can give you the larger city street direchouse on basing one was systems. It can then take you onto any "A" and "B" roads or metorways uncluding processors turnings and street passes all the was to your destination. Theor so Dand lists a dambase of motoland Great Britain that is more than three times the aign of some route guides now on the market. It also has the on-screen "Tourist Information Guide To Etties, Towns and

New or special routes are easy to add yourself with the no-servery

There to Door will run on all Amigas and PCs with \$12K or more. For a limited period we will include the digitized street that of Greater London, all for just £19.95.

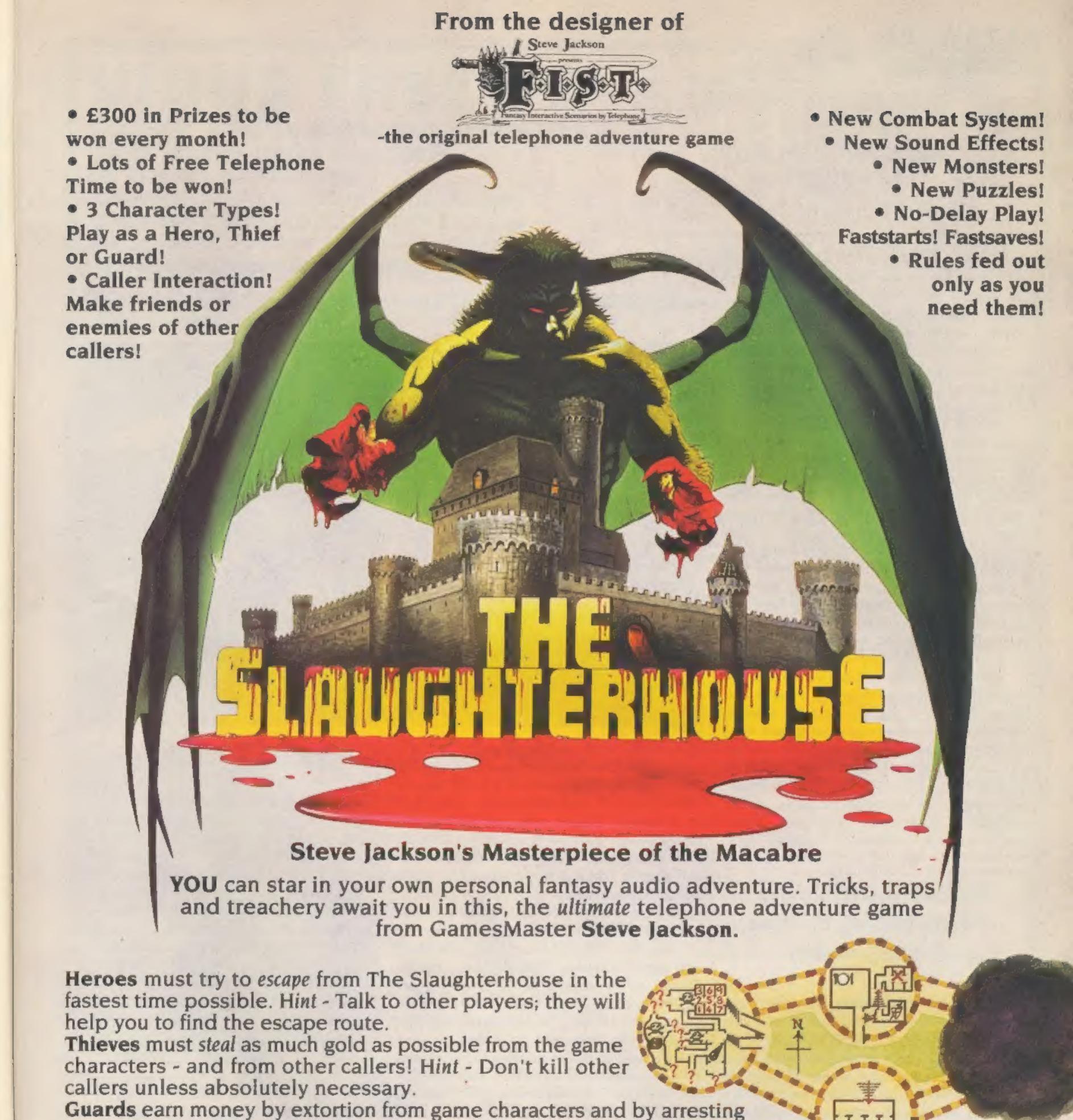
Why we have that you will be tempted to purchase our taker add on draks that we intend to instrude e each month such as new databases of European conguence, diguized street maps of cities, with full colour graphics, animotion and sound. The World Atlan. A History of Great Britain and Mosteries of the World, A Hoge Queen. These are out necessary to the running of Toor to Door to but at only \$10 each we think you may just buy.

Send cheques/P.O for £19.95 to:

### GEOGRAPHIC

Dept Transport Studies, 3/5 Cranford Place, Wilsden. BD15 0AD. Tel: 0535 274228

 The advert which attracted all the money -Door to Door's claims were never realised.



**Live Encounters!** 

or Heroes.

You will regularly come across other callers. Is he Hero, Thief or Guard? Will you risk talking to him? Can you trust what he says? Or if you don't trust him, will you strike the first blow? Heroes need escape information from other callers. Thieves need to appear friendly to get close enough to pick pockets. Guards must find out about any strangers they meet - a wrongful arrest carries a heavy penalty.

**New Combat System!** 

other callers. Hint - Only arrest Thieves who have killed another caller

Outguess your opponent each Attack Round by dialling a number between I and 3. A 3 (Savage Attack) beats a 2 (Lunge) which beats a 1 (Guarded Attack) which beats a 3. Work out what happens when you both choose the same number! Monsters fight to the death - but in recognisable patterns. But with LIVE opponents, you can opt to either Plead For Mercy (dial a 9) or Spare his Life (dial a 0).

Cash Prizes to be Won! And Free Game Time!

The best Hero, Thief and Guard each month wins a prize of £100. Heroes must escape quickly: Thieves and Guards must collect Gold. In addition to these prizes, the computer will award free play time to characters who collect more than a certain number of Gold Pieces (the Gold required will vary from month to month and character to character).

### ☎ 0898 10 10 50

Calls cost 33p per minute cheap, 44p per minute all other times. The Slaughterhouse can be played on Al.i. TYPES of telephone. Some callers may find that dialling a '1' will exit from the game and suspend the call. This occurs at BT exchanges and is not a fault of the game system. If you experience a problem, please call again with a touch-tone telephone. If you need more information send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Computerdial, 7 Leapaie Road, Guildford, Surrey GU1 4JU, marked "Slaughterhouse".

# A FAMILY AFFAIR

Commodore late tast year as a comprehensive computer bundle for the whole family, it was not so much a new machine as a repackaged, cut price version of an existing one, the B2000. As such it attracted much derision from within the industry, many regarding the machine as a bit of B joke. How could you take seriously B computer which seemed to have more effort put into designing its packaging than into its hardware?

However, the 1500 has proven to be a shrewd marketing move which has successfully repositioned a rather unprepossessing business-orientated computer as viable and attractive all-inclusive bundle for domestic users retailing for under that all important £1,000 mark. It is a computer for the home user who needs something a bit more flexible and powerful than the Amiga 500 which, despite Commodore's efforts, is still generally regarded as a games machine. But the 1500 being portrayed as a more practical all singing all dancing computer on which Dad can write documents, Mum can keep the household accounts up to date and design clothes for the kids who can play educationally sound games like *Sim City* and *Battlechess*.

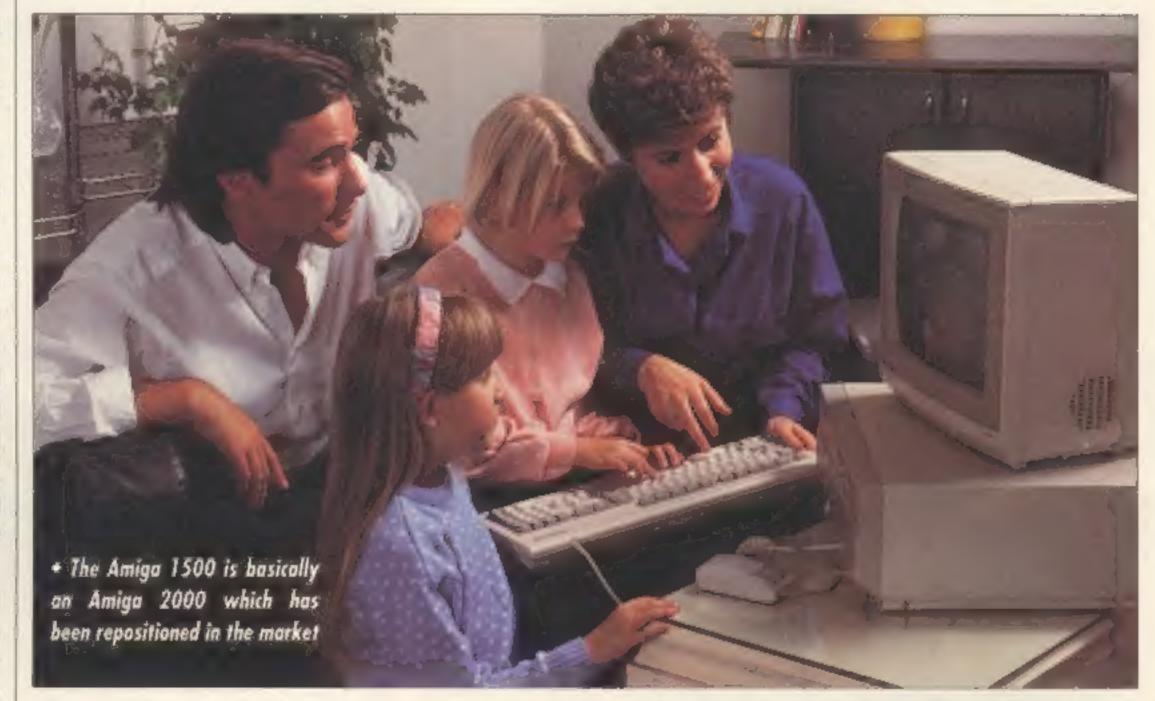
The only major difference between the 1500 and the 82000 is that the new machine has an extra built-in 3.5-inch floppy drive. This means that it is extremely expandable – there are memory cards available for up to 17Mb. There are seven vertical expansion slots and the machine is compatible with the same peripherals and add-ons as the 2000, such as the Video Toaster, genlocks, processor accelerators, etc. There are even slots which will take PC cards. The 1Mb of RAM makes it useful for applications like Desktop Publishing.

### The 1500 is being portrayed as a more practical, all singing all dancing computer

The extra drive is a godsend for any A500 owner who has had to fiddle around with multiple disks. It is so much less frustrating and time consuming to just click on an 'OK' button when requested to 'place disk A in any drive' rather than having to swap disks. The only problem is that there is no labelling on the drives so, if like me, you have a dreadful memory, you have to keep referring to the manual whenever a program asks you to place a disk in 'dfo 1'.

Included in the bundle is a high quality 1084S

Take a business computer, give it a new name and minor cosmetic surgery – and you have an ideal family bundle. Dave Golder shows how it appeals.



stereo monitor (which you do not get with the 2000) and an impressive collection of software which reflects the family appeal for which Commodore is aiming. Both are major selling points for the 1500 package. A family buying a computer does not really want the hassle of buying separate components; an all-in-one system which is ready to go as soon as it is bought is much more practical. Conspicuous by its absence is a music program to take advantage of the Amiga's impressive stereo sound capabilities, but Commodore reckons that this could be rectified before too long.

Sadly there is no hard disk, but even the standard 2000 does not have one. There are rumours that the company might be upgrading the 2000 to contain a hard disk, but until then the machine seems to have been made redundant by the 1500. The new machine might be aimed at the home user, but it offers the same power, and virtually the same features as its older relative at a much lower cost. As the 2000 retails for £1,295 plus VAT, about £300 more than the 1500, a business user might as well buy is 1500 instead.

Overall, the Amiga 1500 is not a stunning new venture, but rather a successful ploy by Commodore to open a new area in the home market for the Amiga. It is

### A SPECTRUM OF SOFTWARE

An impressive range of software comes with the A1500: PLATINUM WORKS is a combined word processor, database, spreadsheet and communications package. DELUXE PAINT 3 is Electronic Arts' universally acclaimed art package. You can use up to 64 colours simultaneously and it includes animation facilities. SIM CITY is the award winning game from infogrames in which basically you have to build and manage a city. POPULOUS is a complex game in which you try to settle a tribe of your own people on various islands. BATTLECHESS is basically animated chess, in which the pieces walk around the board and fight each other. THEIR FINEST HOUR is a flight sim set in the Battle of Britain with some stunning 3-D sequences.

an ideal starter package for those with a bit more money or a machine to which existing Amiga owners can aspire instead of buying a loads of add-ons or saving up for the much more expensive A2000 and A3000. It may have begun life as a bit of a mongrel, but it could go on to spawn a generation of pedigree champions.

### THE AYES HAVE IT

### AYE

- ▲ Impressive specifications at a reasonable price
- Excellent range of bundled software
- Two floppy drives
- Monitor included in price
- Very good expansion opportunities

#### NAY

- ▼ Too similar to the 2000 to have its own real identity
- ▼ Manual is exactly the same as the 2000 manual

### **ALTERNATIVE UPGRADES TO THE AMIGA 1500**

THE SHELL is not an upgrade in itself, but a casing for Amiga 500 owners to store all their expansion units. It sits under the monitor like the systems unit of the real systems unit and provides a detachable keyboard unit. It has room for various expansion cards, extra ports, new floppy drives and even a hard drive. It requires a little effort with a screwdriver, but the end results are worth it.

The Shell (systems unit and keyboard case) costs £230 and each extra add-on costs £10-£80. Contact A1500 Ltd on 081-907 3636. Express will review it soon. THE BODEGA BAY is a modular expansion console for the A500 which gives the machine 1500/2000-like specifications, including a card cage and expansion bay.

The Amiga connects to the unit via the expansion port and slots in comfortably underneath the unit with just the keyboard showing, forming a solid PC- style console. The Bodega Bay is not currently available, but should be out soon retailing for around £350.

Contact the Amiga Centre Scotland on 031 557 4242. For a full review see Express 123.

### VIRUS FREE PD

Amiga Public Domain Software ALL DISKS DISTRIBUTED VIR

PD STARTER PACK 2 Only £5.00 inc. p&p

**Wet Beaver Tennis RSI Demo Maker** MVK 2.1 5 Cool Demos **Vogue Music Comp** 

15 PD DISKS = £20.00 inc 5 FREE ONLY £1.00 FOR EACH SUCCESSIVE **DISK EG:** 

> 16 PD DISKS = £21.00 17 PD DISKS = £22.00 20 PD DISKS = £25.00

Call for details of discounts on bulk orders

### OVER 1400 PD DISKS CATALOGUED.

659

1320

1317

Official AMOS PD disks now available

**AMOS Licenceware** £3.50 a disk

### DEMO'S.

1365	Porky Pig Anim.
1339	Copper Demo 2
1318	Sys Violation
1307	Major Delight
1306	Evolution 76
1305	Phenomina
1300	Fart & Belch
1297	Cloths Peg
1173	Panic
1180	Disaster
1167	Movie Demo
1172	Enforcements
1185	Thunder Child

### **AMAZING TUNES 2**

20 fantastic tunes 3 disks, 1 meg

ADULT GAMES AVAILABLE OVER 18's ONLY

	GAMES.
843	Metagalactic Llamas
1064	Lettrix (Great)
1020	Master of Town
1204	Wet Beaver Tennis
849	The Holy Grail
850	Breakout Con Kit
830	Quiz Master
670	Monopoly
595	Cave Runner
1209	Wacko in Wonderland
832	Agatron Games
531	Blizzard
530	Pacman
509	Paradroid
1207	Frantic Freddy
505	Drip
255	Flaschbier
856	Xenon 3 etc.
117	Moria RPG
154	Track Record 1 meg
534	Games disk 1

### **BLANK DISKS** Branded 3.5" disks Only 35p each With any other purchase

RECEIVE IT FREE OF CHARGE.

### Games disk 1 Chess etc. Mastermind etc.

1348 1217 True Energy FOR JUST £1.00 YOU CAN RECEIVE OUR HIGHLY PRAISED CATALOGUE DISK, GIVING DETAILS OF OVER 1000 PUBLIC DOMAIN DISKS. OR ORDER 3 OR MORE OF THE ABOVE AND

659	Essential Utils. 1
1206	Mandlebrot Maker
1208	Database Wizard
1078	Essential Utils. 2
1099	Pro Tracker 1.1
1202	RSI Demo Maker
1146	Icon Magic
1151	C-Light
1156	Driver Generator
1368	Speccy Emulator
1310	MVK 2.1

### MUSIC

Slabys Music

101/	13
1308	Vogue Music Comp.
1303	Imagination
1322	Flashing Bytes
1319	Original Rips 3
1323	Matrix Music 3
1324	Blood Suckers
1327	Triumph Music 11
1333	Amigadeus
1334	The Beatles Hits
1338	Turn Up The Bass
1347	Classix 2
1353	The Best of RAF
1348	Hot Wired
1217	Equamania 2
1101	True Energy

### **EXCLUSIVE WARE:** CROSSED SYSTEM

Mega fast shoot 'em up silky smooth scrolling digitized SFX & speech multiple weapons and more **EXCLUSIVE TO US** ONLY £3.99 inc. p&p Crossed System is NOT PD

### Do the Bart man

A 3 disk version of the No. 1 hit single Only £3.00 inc. p&p

Master Virus Killer 2.1

Can now detect 124 viruses/bootblocks

RED SECTOR **DEMO MAKER** AVAILABLE NOW

VISA

NOW AVAILABLE: CLIP ART Vol. 2. 3 DISKS ONLY £3.00 inc Catalogue Disk Available at £1.00 sent FREE with all orders

VIRUS FREE PD (Dept NCE) 23 ELBOROUGH RD, MOREDON, SWINDON, WILTS, SN2 2LS. ENGLAND TEL: 0793 512321 FAX: 0793 512075

Send Postal Order or Cheques to:

Minimum order of 3 Disks All prices include P&P in UK. **OVERSEAS ORDERS welcome** but please send Euro cheque or Bankers draft with order. Please add £3.00 towards P&P.

COMPUTER AUCTIONS

### EOR SAILE BY AUCIDON

### SATURDAY 27th

St Pauls School, The Ridings Green Street, Sunbury-on-Thames, Middx (½ mile from junction 1 of M3)

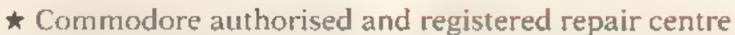
Wide selection of up to date PC's, printers and software

Phone 0932 788600 for details



AMIGA REPAIRS

JUST £44.95 inc.



★ Over 10 years experience with Commodore computers

\* 20 qualified technician engineers at your disposal

★ We will undertake to repair your Amiga 500 computer for just £44.95 including parts, labour, VAT and post & packing

★ Most computers will be turned around in just 24 hours!

\* Prices include full service check, overhaul, soak-test and replacement of power supply unit if necessary

★ Repairs to keyboard and disk drive also included (£25 extra if these units are unrepairable and require complete replacements)

\* All repairs covered by a 90 day warranty

Upgrade your Amiga from 512K to 1Mb of memory for just £25.00 SPECIAL EXCLUSIVE OFFER:

If you submit your computer to ourselves for repair, enclosing this advert along with just an additional £25, we will supply and fit a 512K memory expansion at no extra cost.

How to take advantage of this exceptional offer: simply send or hand deliver your machine to the workshop address detailed right, enclosing payment and this advert and we will do the rest. (If possible please include a daytime telephone number and fault description).

\* If you require 24 hour courier to your door, please add £5 else your computer will be sent back by contract parcel post.

### WTS ELECTRONICS LTD

STUDIO MASTER HOUSE CHAUL END LANE LUTON, BEDS, LU4 8EZ Telephone (0582) 491949 - (4 lines)

WTS reserve the right to refuse machines that in our opinion are tampered with, to an extent beyond reasonable repair

Write and tell H F-W what you think about almost anything under the 5un! Reach him at Express Mail, 30 Monmouth Street, Bath BAIL 2BW: Sorry no personal replies even with an SAF and remember, only SOMF letters win a fiver!

### Remember Pop?

Once long ago there was another weekly computer magazine called Popular Computing Weekly - you may remember it. ( err yes... it wasn't very was it? - H F-W)

One of the features of this magazine was the misprinting of program listings. Imagine the wave of nostalgia that swept over me when I saw the listing for Dirty Pools in Issue 123 - yep, it's misprinted on line 60. PCW used is blame the printers, but as Express is 'set' on a Mac, a real minority machine if there ever was one - I have never seen one outside of a shop window. (I'm not surprised someone would nick it immediately - H F-W) So who's to blame?

I look forward to the correction next week as used to be the case with PCW. Technology comes and goes but human error is eternal.

DGW Griffith

Shepherds Bush, London

And it's over to an ex-listings droid for the reply to this one...

I write as the poor soul who's job it once was to plough through, and in most cases tidy up, BASIC listings for sister magazine 8000 Plus. There are no excuses for printing incorrect program listings, that's for sure. Blame has been apportioned, so rest assured that the person who designed Quark Xpress has been taken out, covered in jam and eaten alive by small bears.

All I really have to say is that printing them in the first place is a dangerous game. Problems arise as soon as you have to make them legible on the page. We can't simply use the hard copy from the machine on which VILE.BAS or TRICKY.BAS were running, because treating text as graphics is notoriously hazardous, and normally unreadable in the finished product. Printing listings so that lines don't wrap produces ugly, unreadable pages which are effectively slabs of IFs. THENS, WHILEs and TANs. Who wants to read something like that? Either they wrap, and you run the possibility of a lost word, or you only ever run progs with lines of IIII characters or less.

To summarise, printing listings should be avoided in in costs, and when it is done it should be with the strict proviso that they are m the readers' risk! By the way the glitch in the Dirty Pools was a missing: NEXT f+1 I believe.

**Tim Smith** 

### No way to call a lady

Commiserations to Robert Fisher, but my mother, 71 in June, has been using my old Spectrum Plus to play Scrabble for the last five years. She also runs a database program on the machine listing 📶 the customers on her Pools round as well as using it to catalogue her huge collection of cookery books.

DGW Griffith, Again

And that's two letters in one issue there DGW - a fiver's on IIII way IIII you for this rare feat of exposure. By the way, 71 in June in the most avant garde girl's name I've ever heard.

### More Square eyes



ON An Apple Mac portable was on this week's Twin Peaks. An Amstrad is offered as a prize on Catchword. A Mac is used in the film

Weird Science. William Shatner enlists the help of some Commodore Pets to save the President in The Kidnapping of the President or something like that. In Police Academy II, a Commodore 64 is seen playing Paperboy with arcade graphics and another Commodore III III used in the radio show iii the film Choose Me.

Pity my A410 has not appeared on one Hollywood production. Faisal Qureshi, Gatley, Stockport

So it looks as though you forgot all about Raiders Of the Last Arc then doesn't it?

H F-W.

### Pirates Ahoy

Yo ho ho etc (sound of distant parrot). I've been a pirate ever since I got my C64, and on the Amiga I am worse. Every morning I get up and shift through the huge pile of jiffy bags below my letterbox. And I can tell you someone saying 'piracy is very naughty and will put the prices up' will not stop me.

An article in a magazine complaining about how Lemmings was totally pirated within nanoseconds followed by the top 20 charts with Lemmings at Number One for three weeks will not stop me. The reason why many games are spread before their release date is because we get them off the developers.

And so why do FAST think that by printing their pathetic adverts they will stop me. These ads are a cross between 1960s public service comic strip adverts and The Famous Five; all they do is give us something to laugh at.

Deathbringer 90, Shellford, Beds

If you're so smart why did you enclose your address?

Looks like like the ad isn't very popular from a number of perspectives though - as our next reader points out.

HF-W

### Let's Get Serious Now

The National Market Traders' Federation objects most strongly to the advertisement placed in your magazine by ELSPA in their campaign against software theft, on 23 March 1991.

Naturally we do not condone software theft but we would contend it is not exclusive to markets, so why are they singled out in the advertisement?

The unsavoury type of character depicted is a slur on market traders and markets and is offensive to the many honest and genuine market traders in this field as well as detrimental to their business.

We would appreciate the next issue of your magazine pointing out that this advert was not intended to be a slur on market traders or to deter anyone from doing business with them.

John Burton, Deputy General Secretary, NMTF, Hoyland, Bamsley.

Over to you ELSPA for the reply to that one

### The ST is crap episode

In issue 125 Jay Lee claimed that the ST ran m 70Hz, but as a fact I know that on a TV it runs at 50 or 60Hz which is the same as the Amiga. Maybe he was comparing an ST through a monitor to an Amiga through a TV which is a bit of a unfair comparison. If through a monitor the ST still runs at a higher rate then I have to admit I don't mind losing a few Hertz for much better graphics, much better (Incomparable I'd say) STEREO sound, smooth Medium res and tons of upgrade options (particularly the CDTV).

Having seen on Tomorrow's World the CDTV running XENON II with 3D sound, I am tempted to buy the CD drive but I have the following questions:

The CDTV has 1Mb chip RAM, while I have 512 chip RAM, 512k fast RAM The CDTV has 2Mb non volatile RAM, and Kick start 3.1 (I got this into from that Amiga supplement) so will I find I can't use all CDTV software, or will I have to make my Amiga 1Mb chip RAM, insert Kickstart 3.1 and somehow get the 2Mb non-volatile RAM?

Could you also tell me Wing Commander will im on cartridge. (Oh no! screams from hundreds M ST owners bawling, still sore after the comments in Express of the ST being nothing more than a MiDI controller).

S Oswin, Denton Northants.

The answers are yes you will need IMb of chip RAM methinks and no. Wing Commander won't be on cartridge for the foreseeable future but there again...

H F-W

### ...And so no.2386 Amiga

Bob Wade's 'editorial' commenting on the possibility . Commodore entering the professional 'fray' with the Amiga gave me a bit of a chuckle. As he rightly points out in his well written little piece, several things have to alter before Commodore makes any inroads into the professional market. The first item I suggest is that someone Commodore goes out and buys a dictionary and looks up the word professional.

I have used Commodore products ever since my purchase of a Vic 20 about years ago. I have progressed through a 64 and a 128D to my present A500 with all the bells and whistles. The family also own another A500, an A2000 and a PCI, which gives you some idea of the amount of our money that's passed into Commodore's hands since that first purchase!

My use for the Amiga is almost 100 per cent work orientated. Although I buy and maintain all my own hardware and software, most of the work I do is for the government-funded project for which I work. I am not a computer 'tinkerer'; I am a computer user.

I still feel that considering the price of the hardware and software the Amiga is a very good buy for someone in my position. However, the level of support offered by Commodore is such that I have recently had to make the decision as to which computer to put my future in, since I'm about to launch into the DTP business.

End user support was the one thing that made me decide to buy the IBM clone on which I'm typing this letter - it cost about the same as the A3000 that I was considering, but already the level of support offered by the firm that sold me the machine stands out as being way ahead of anything Commodore have ever dreamt off

Now I could at this point tell you of the nightmare I recently suffered dealing with Commodore Customer Care, and the fact that it soon became obvious that it was actually actively preventing me from

getting a hardware problem sorted out. However, a much more basic problem was the real basis for the decision.

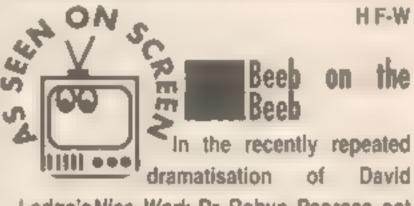
Nine months ago I bought a Preferences supported printer, an HP DeskJet Plus (a really excellent printer that just needs HP to actually market it). All was fine until I tried printing out a page from the desk top publisher - the printout finished mid-line about III inches down the page. Several weeks later, and many frustrated hours spent reprinting pages because they were missing all or part of the bottom section, I discovered that it was a printer driver problem. My dealer, with whom I have been very happy, was unable to help, and this is where Commodore customer support is now supposed to start and finish.

Quite what it is able to do at this level I don't know, but several letters and phone calls to Commodore left me with a response rate of about 12 per cent to my correspondence and a rather vague comment that it is working on a solution! Any way, the solution for me is that rather than spending money on its flagship I've loaded lots of software onto the new machine and haven't yet found anything that doesn't give a superb printout on the DeskJet in at least half the time!

Perhaps the answer lies in the general if low-key swing from the company being Commodore Business Machines to just Commodore!

Geoff Crowther. Beauchamp, Leicester

Mmmm...any thoughts on this one readers?



Lodge's Nice Work Dr Robyn Penrose not only used a BBC micro type out her new book about female novelists but also claimed III have stayed up all night printing out the draft.

Hardly surprising that it took her so

long as there was no indication that she owned a printer, let alone a sheet feeder. Martyn Dryden, Wimborne, Dorset

Pee CW

At a meeting of our Area User Group, Micro-Design User Group - as seen in your Express On-Line - one M the things brought up for discussion was the inevitable 'My computer blah, blah, blah...' It appears that the lowly Amstrad 8512 with its 9-pin printer comes out on top or bottom as is the case in point here. My friend Brian has a wife and four children. The youngest being about one year old and on odd occasions she has been caught short while trying to get me her potty. As you can guess my friend found while moving his printer it had developed a leak - after emptying it and leaving it to dry it works as good as new.

So. His Computer Printer Works Better After Being Peed On Than Your Computer Printer.

David Marples, Barnsley, S. Yorks

We're atraid Alan Sugar was unavailable for comment on this one, but we'll keep trying his number.

HF-W

### Why Indeed?

I write in reply to Jay Lee's letter on Amiga DTP. He 🗷 talking through his exhaust when he says that the Amiga was designed as a games machine. If this is so, then why was it fitted with a parallel port and a keyboard? Why was a mouse supplied with it? Why did Commodore wire business software for it? Why was a hard drive designed for it and why was it originally not supplied with a TV modulator? If it was designed as a poor man's arcade machine none of the above would have been done.

His outlook on Amiga DTP in tunnelled as far as I can see. There are many professional DTP programs on the Amiga that rival software twice the price on other

ProPage, ProSetter machines; Pagestream for instance. Obviously the Amiga can never rival a Mac Ilsi but then it doesn't cost several thousand pounds. Simon Richards, Twickenham, Middx.



### **Advertising Standards**

On the December 17 last year I purchased a 50Mb hard drive from Third Coast Technologies 🖪 Standish, and left an Atari SH 204 for repair.

In January I complained that the clock did not function and, contrary to the advertisement for this drive, I did not think a fan was fitted.

I was informed by the spokesman for TCT, a Mr J Miller, that the company did not feel that a fan was necessary, and as for the clock problem I should use one made by Frontier.

Since then I have telephoned 11 times regarding my SH 204 and every time I've been told that the person handling that repair is not available. I have also written four times, the last two being recorded delivery, and I have not had a reply.

So before I follow the advice of the officer of fair trading I was wondering if you could inform me if there is a trade association to which I could appeal because I believe this company has recently been taken to task by an advertising body.

I do hope you can assist me in this matter.

Leyland, Manchester

I should check out the Door to Door news teature elsewhere or this issue where you'll find more info on trading standards. But no trading association as such exists I'm afraid...

HF-W



To add to the discussion about the price of software: Your recent explanation of where the £20 goes in the making M a computer game helped answer some questions, but it also raises some. What about games for the Spectrum and Commodore 64?

puters cost about half the price of 16-bit games. Licences still have to be paid for and the tax man still has to rip us off, so why is there such a vast difference in

but I remember a few years ago when advertisements for Ocean games displayed the prices of games for different formats. The Commodore and Amstrad versions always cost £1 more than the Spectrum versions. Odd.

And what of business software? Why does a lot it cost hundreds of pounds? It can't just be just because it comes with

A good couple of points there Daniel- and ones which the Editor has decided to take up



### Where does it all go?

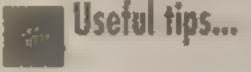
Games for these great comprices for 8-bit and 16-bit games?

I don't think this happens anymore

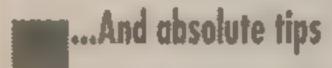
telephone director-sized manuals.

Daniel Walker, Reigate, Surrey

in a forthcoming feature.



I would like to start a new debate: who gets the most use from their Express when they've finished reading it? Or the dattest thing to do with their Express when they've finished reading it? I use



When I was watching Why Don't You on April 3 I spotted a copy of New Computer Express lying under a piece of rather rubbish artwork, it had obviously been used to protect the floor while these strange people painted. Hopefully they will get a slap across the face for using this TOP magazine instead of a newspaper. Is this worth a fiver Haydn? Richard Clarke , Leeds

mine on my bedside lamp as it's too bright and I can't get a dimmer bulb. Plus, if I get the urge to read it again it's close at hand.

Pamela Curry, Watford, Herts

...Just watch Express doesn't burn down the house though won't you H F-W

I think it probably is - well spotted. The Express office is of course littered with copies of ...er.. Express. Millions of them in fact. Perhaps we could start a "My Floor Is Deeper in Rubbish Than Your Floor (MFIDIRTYF) debate here. We use them to cover up the sackfuls of press releases we receive announcing things like 'Flon Gubbings appointed Sub-Group Sales Director of Knobsoft' and 'Commodere CDTV due in the 1990's, honest chaps' and HF-W SO OR.



 Final proof that Express leaves everything else in the shade!

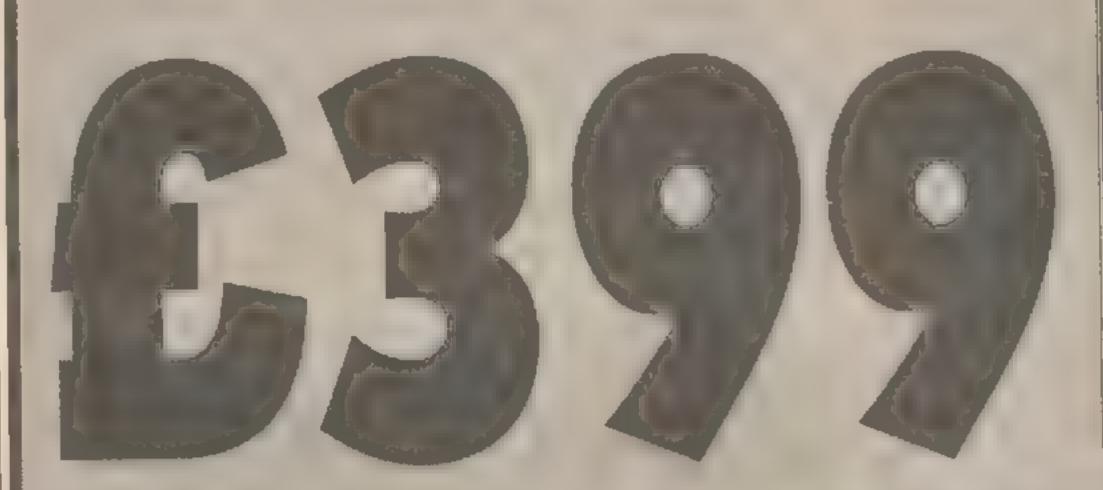


· The Express office with resident copy droid and ever encroaching piles of debris

# 0203 SKYE COMPUTERS 0203 682686

CHEQUES/PO TO: 20 WARNER ROW, COVENTRY CV6 5HJ

### AT 286 - 12MHZ ONLY



- \* 1Mb RAM
- ★ 14" Amber Monitor
- ★ 1.2Mb or 1.44Mb Floppy
- ★ 2S/IP Ports
- ★ 102 Key Keyboard
- ★ Flip Top Case
- \* Hercules Graphic Card
- ★ 12 month warranty

### FREE GIFT WITH ALL BROCHURES

	Mono	Mono	Colour VGA 256K	Super Colour VGA 1Mb
286-12Mhz	£399	£450	£630	£725
286-16Mhz	£420	£470	£645	£745
286-20Mhz	£450	£505	£680	£780
386-16Mhz	£675	£730	£905	£1005
386-25Mhz	£875	£925	£1100	£1200
386-33Mhz cache	£999	£1060	£1235	£1330
486-25MHz 8K cache	£1350	£1400	£1580	£1680
486-25MHz 128K cache	£1855	£1905	£2085	£2180

ADD VAT @ 17.5% TO TOTAL ORDER

### OPTIONS ADD

OI IIOIIO ADD
Full Tower Case£79
Mini Tower Case£25
Slim Line Case£30
Extra 1.2 or 1.44 Floppy£33
40Mb Hard Drive£120
80Mb Hard Drive£230
120Mb Hard Drive£270
200Mb Hard Drive£410
Extra Ram per Mb£45
Mouse£29
MS-DOS 4.01£59
1 Yr on-site maintenance£50

All systems are burnt in and tested for 48 hrs before despatch.

Delivery - £18 + VAT.
Delivery normally within 7 days, but please allow 28 days.



dataplex

VISA

### DATAPLEX COMPUTERS LTD

129 Bath Road, Slough, Berkshire, SL1 3UW Tel: 0753 35557 SHOWROOM open: Mon - Fri 9.30 - 5.30Saturday £1.50 Hardware 68.00

DIG LID.
19 High Street
Swindon,
Wiltshire
Tel: 0793 488448

9.30 - 4.30MAILORDER Consumables Prices

excluding VAT

### AMIGA A500 HARDWARE

Amiga A500 Screen Gems +	
1 Meg Pack	£309
Amiga A500 Screen Gems Pack -	r tree
disks + 10 extra games pack	.£345
Amiga A500 1 Meg Class of 90's	.£459
Amiga A500 1 Meg Class	
of 90's (First Steps)	£459
Amiga A1500 Computer	£549
Amiga A1500 + 1084S monitor	£759
Amiga A1500 + Phillips CM8833 MKII	£725

### SPECIAL OFFER

Amiga A500, 512K, Flight of Fantasy Pack... £279.00

#### While stocks last

Amiga A500 + TV Mod + Mouse + system disk + manuals ......only £269

### **ATARI COMPUTERS**

Atari 520STFM discovery pack
includes 4 games£240
Atari 520 STE Turbo Pack includes
basic STOS and 7 games +
Joystick£310
Atarl 1040 STE extra pack includes ST
Words, ST Calc, ST Basic, ST Graphics,
Hyper-Paint, STOS, 1st Basic, Print
Game£399

### AMIGA/ATARI DRIVES

1	Meg	3.5" internal	£49
1	Meg	3.5" external	£60
		5.25" external	

### **ACCESSORIES**

512K Ram + clock	.£39
Joystick	.210
10 Blank disks in library box	
Mouse Mat	
Amiga/Atari Mouse	
MONITORS	

BIOTHEONS
Philips CM8833 MK II Colour
Monitor + FREE Lead£189
Commodore 1084S£199
SM 124 (Atari)£99

### **PRINTERS**

Star LC10 Mono	£129
Star LC200 Colour (9 pin)	.2180
Star LC24 200 (24 pin)	.£210
Star LC24 200 Colour	
Star LC24/10	£175
Panasonic KXP1124i + lead	£239
Panasonic KXP 1123	.£180
Panasonic KXP1624	
Citizen 120D +	.£120
Citizen Swift 24 + Colour Upgrade	£25
Citizen Swift 9 + Colour Upgrade .	£185
Epson LX400	£126
Epson LQ400 (24 pin)	£199

### LASER/INKJET PRINTERS

PLEASE CALL FOR PRICES

Disks & boxes 2 for 1 disk

guarantee

ill disks + 80 cap box .....£25 100 disks + 🛍 cap box......£40 150 disks + 80 cap box .... £53.50 200 disks + 2 x 86 boxes ....£70

400 disks + 4 x 80 boxes ..£137 500 disks + 5 x 80 boxes ...£156 Price inc. VAT & pap

### TOP QUALITY PRODUCT FOP QUALITY SERVICE ree

labels

	guarantee	
50	3.5 DS/DD	£21.75
100	3.5 DS/DD	£36.50
150	3.5 DS/DD	
	3.5 DS/DD	£64 🚜
4110		£124
inn,	3.5 DS/DD	£140
	Price inc. VAT &	noch 🛌

Bulk buyers 2 for I disk

5 1 50 Cap Box.....£5.10 4 100 Cap Box...£5.90

40 Cap Box.....£4.10 80 Cap Box ......£4.50

100 5 DS/DD + £28.50 mc. VAT & p&r

MKII Monitor

Add £3.65 P&P, add £4.00 for 3 day delivery, add £8.00 2 day, £10.00 next day (from despatch)

Cheques will be held for clearance

**AMIGAS ACCESSORIES** Amiga 500 ... £315 Screen Gems 1Mb .......£373 Jetfighter .....£12.50 Class of the 90's .....£521 First Steps .....£521 Cumana drive......£65 Meg no clock ........... £31 Meg + clock ....... £35.50 Dust cover...

ATARIS For new 520STE bundles call for low prices Cheetah 125+ £8 Ext drive

Trade/Government/School orders welcome







#### **RUMOURS...**

Claris is reputedly about to launch a new, integrated package containing a spreadsheet, database, draw program and word processor. This malikely to be based on cut-down versions of MacWrite, MacDraw, FileMaker and a spreadsheet. It's basically going to be aimed at people who buy Mac Classics and StyleWriters, so the price should be reasonably competitive.

If that sort of package sounds attractive to you, you could do worse than take a look at Microsoft Works, which has been reduced in price by 25 per cent to £145 until the end of May. Although it's now a little long in the tooth. Works has many users who've never found the need to buy anything else. It consists of a word processor, spreadsheet and database, and also has a comms module and some drawing facilities built in. You can get hold of Microsoft on 0734 391123; Works is available from vast numbers software distributors.

Apple in the States managed to thoroughly annoy most of a dealers with an advert which it ran in various newspapers a month or so ago, advertising Macs. The ads had a strapline which said something like, "the prices quoted are recommended retail. But who pays retail anymore?" This upset all those dealers who were quite happy charging retail prices to anyone willing to pay.

On a similar vein, if you're thinking about buying an expensive Mac setup (say, a lici, external hard disk and large monitor), don't immediately pay the list prices if you buy from your Apple dealer. Ask what kind of discount he'll give - some have been known to give 15 per cent or more. Don't bother trying this with the low-cost Macs, though the dealer's profit margin is so small

that there's no way you'll get a discount.

A Japanese newspaper is claiming that Apple Computer Japan will sell a handwriting input device for the Mac this April. It consists of a tablet, pen and software, and connects to the ADB port. The newspaper reckons that the price will be in the region of \$770.

Here's a little-known fact; you can add 512k of video RAM (VRAM) to your Mac LC. Ok, you may afready know that you can do that to increase the number of colours that the 13-inch monitor can display from 16 to 256. But did you realise that, if you have a 12-inch colour monitor, adding the VRAM will increase the number of colours displayed from 8bit (256 colours) to 16-bit (several thousand colours). Neat if you want to retouch photos or if you have a 24-bit paint program and you want to use it to the full. Apple's list price for the VRAM is £145 plus VAT. Oh, and if you want any details of Apple products, you can phone free of charge: dial 100 and ask for Freefone Apple. Just don't expect answers to technical questions.

#### **NEW GAME DISTRIBUTOR**

Cache Connection, a London-based Mac peripheral distributor, has been appointed as the UK distributor for Accolade Europe's new range of Macgames. So far there are about 15 games available, including Jack Nicklaus Greatest 18 Golf (£34.99) and Ishido (£34.99 - see the next item for a review).

The advantage of buying from Cache Connection rather than a grey importer is that the company has close ties with Accolade, and so should always have good stocks of the games. If you want to get hold of Cache Connection's catalogue, called Product Suitcase, give the company a ring on 071-407 3463.

### POSTCARD FROM AMERICA

I had the good fortune to attend MacAble-Tools for Independence, a small show on the University of California campus. It demonstrated hardware and software for users that have difficulties with hearing, mobility, and vision.

I really love a good hack—especially a free one. Brothers, Alan and Mark Hayutin, who run a pre-press, typesetting business, were showing a mouse with special abilities.

Aknost ten years ago, after an accident, Alan found himself in a wheelchair, with limited control of his hands. He wanted to use a computer, but like many others, had trouble with MS-DOS flavoured computers. The brothers were on the right track when they were turned on to the Lisa in 1983, and bought a 128K Macintosh when they hit the market. But Alan was still having trouble pressing the mouse button.

He could move the mouse, but his limited finger dexterity prevented him from clicking the button. They wondered if the click function could be separated from the mouse movement. The Apple Disabilities Workshop engineers built a special two-

headed serial cable that allowed the simultaneous operation of a mouse, and a click switch that Alan could control with his other hand. Alan, who had thought that he would never draw again, was now back at the sketchpad.

Recently the brothers upgraded their system to a Macintosh lici, bringing a new headache-their mouse hack was obsolete. The new Mac models use the Apple Desktop Bus mouse.

Apple engineers were unfortunately not up to the task this time. Mark told me, "They came up with several solutions, none of which worked."

Another reason to retire the word solution. They should have known better than to suggest using two mice at once. Each mouse is independent, pre empting the business of the other.

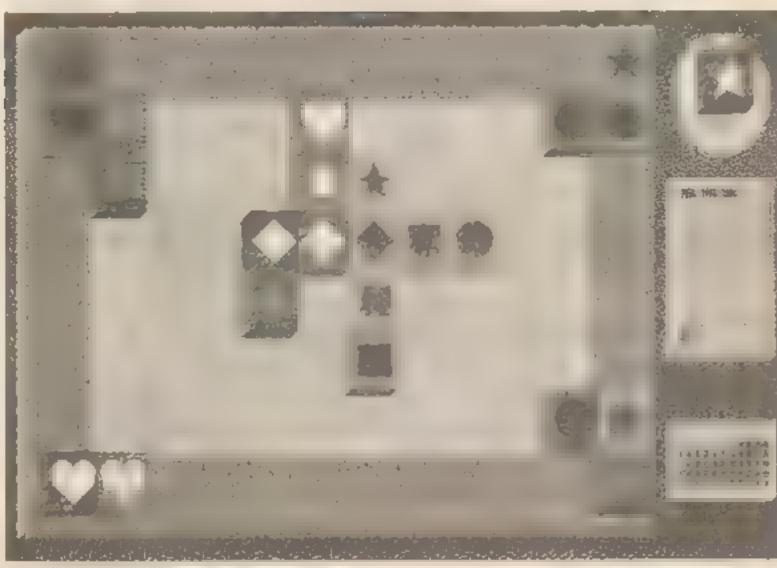
Fortunately they booked up with the Berkeley Macintosh User Group's hardware guru, Chuck Meyer. He came up with the correct method for finding the pin-outs for the switch. The adventure, complete with do-it-yourself diagrams will be recorded in the Fall BMUG Newsletter.

David Morgenstern

om 8-

rice

cklaus



. Ishido: far too hard for Tim Smith, this one's for the more cerebral among you.

#### IT'S ALL FRENCH TO ME ...

GuildSoft has just released a range of Mac foreign language learning courses, written by HyperGlot Software. The languages covered are Chinese, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Russian and Spanish. According to the press release, "the courses are modular in approach, with each module concentrating on a particular aspect of the learning process."

It goes on to list the modules including Pronunciation Tutor with Sound and Verb Tutor with Sound. But the one that really caught my attention was the first on the list, which is used for building vocabulary. Fancy using a program called Word Torture, anyone?

If that hasn't put you off, you can get hold of GuildSoft on 0752 251155. The courses cost between £39 and £129 plus VAT.

#### ISHIDO

Ishido, subtitled The Way of Stones, is one of the Accolade games now available from Cache Connection. The concept is simple - place tiles on a board so that they match the ones already in place, either by colour or by pattern - but actually doing well at the game is somewhat more difficult

If you have a colour Mac the graphics are superb, although it works perfectly well in black-and-white. The game is protected by one of those disks with hundreds of combinations, so at least you don't need to insert a key disk every time, and... er... that's about it.

Whether the game m worth the £34.99 cost up to you; all Mac games are on the expensive side, and this one costs no more than most. If you're interested, give Cache Connection a bell on 071-407 3463

Ian Wrigley

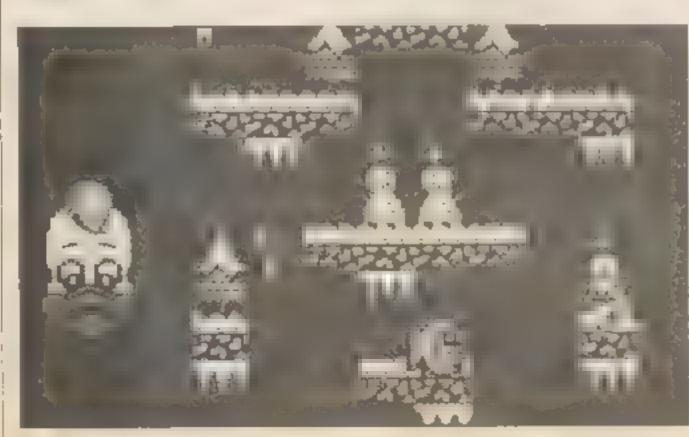
#### **EDD THE DUCK**

Fans of children's TV will know Edd the Duck already; he's one of the more intelligent children's presenters. Well now he's achieved the fame he deserves, and stars in his very own computer game, thanks to impulze.

Edd the Duck is basically pretty standard platform fare, but set in the various departments of the BBC! There are several different levels, and on each one, Edd must collect all the stars left lying around on the platforms. To make things difficult, a butler called Wilson

and his bunch M baddies wander around They are difficult to avoid, but they do move in specific patterns which you can learn. Being touched by one of the baddies does you in, so watch it! You have four lives (or 'takes') to see you through, though.

The graphics really are incredibly cute - cuter even than those in Rainbow Islands. The comparison springs to mind or more ways than one because both games have you scaling a vertical system of platforms. Unfortunately (for Edd!), Rainbow Islands plays better. It's



· Those **SNOWMen** won't do you any harm, but that large, green fish will! The umbrella's none loo friendly, either



PIN NUMBERED QUALITY DISKETTES 100% CERTIFIED AND GUARANTEED 100% ERROR FREE MANUFACTURED AND QUALITY ASSURED BY AN INTERNATIONAL BRAND NAME

COLOURED ORDERS

> 3 ½ BS 60p 5 1/4 DS 20p

5 1/4 DS COLOURED

PLASTIC 31/2 LIBRARY 51/4 CASES

### STORAGE BOXES

31/2 40 cap ...£3.70 31/2 80 cap .. £4.10 51/4 50 cap ...£3.90 51/4 100 cap £4.30

**EURODATA** 12A QUAKERS YARD ADAM AND EVE ST MARKET HARBOROUGH LEIC LE16 7LT TEL: 0858 433992

RING FOR **MEMOREX BRANDED PRICES** 

LIFETIME GUARANTEE. ALL PRICES INCLUDE LABELS & ENVELOPES. ALL PRICES EXCLUDE VAT. ORDER NOW WITH POSTAL ORDER OR CHEQUE MADE PAYABLE TO EURODATA, OR TELEPHONE YOUR ORDER USING

> **AVAILABILITY** ADD £3.20 P&

MASTERCARD & VISA, SUBJECT TO



### Your computer is the only teacher which YOU CONTROL

Whatever your age, whatever your subject - let your computer help you learn.

Subjects include ...

French, German, Spanish, Italian, English History, Geography, Science, General Knowledge, Football, First Aid, Sport, England, Scotland, Natural History, Junior Spelling and Arithmetic

> Available for most popular home & business computers 14



Kosmos are specialist producers of Educational Software designed to help you enjoy learning from your computer. Our programs even allow you to add your own lesson material.

Write or telephone for a FREE 20-page BROCHURE of our Educational & Leisure software Please state your computer type

Kosmos Software Ltd, FREEPOST (no stamp needed) DUNSTABLE, Beds. LU5 6BR Telephone 05255 3942 or 5406





### CENTRAL SCOTLAND'S PREMIER PD LIBRARY

**GAMES** 

G801

G005

G006

G010

G011

DEMQ

0004 D005

D011

D027

U021 Gemini

U003 ST Writer

U024 E-Plan CAD

A001 ANIST

**ATAR!** 

Die Alian Blob Top Of The Pops (Not STE)

Strip Break Out Floyd The Droid

Bermuda Race

Harris Went Skilling

The Young Ones Amiga Modules 3

fron Maiden Phontom

tron Maiden Transylvania

Dark Side III the Spoon

U013 O.C.P.D Comp 1, U006 First World

We also stock the range of T-Bag and Fred Fish Disks and are official licenceware distributors

1-9....£1.50

10-19.....£1.25

The Unreliable Demo

Fish N Chips Demo (Not STE)

U019 Easy Text Plus

U004 Double Sentry

VISA

Star Trek ST Vegas

Fuzzball

Air War Game

Life's A Bitch

Oxygene 4

Baldance '

S Express '

The Yo Demo

U015 D.I.Y Demo Creator

A018 Pearl Ray Tracing

Bolo '

### **AMIGA**

### **GAMES**

G039 Star Trek The Next Generation \* G040 The Next Generation Trivia

Quiz (2) G035 Mayhem

G036 O.C.P.D. Compilation G042 Star Trek American (2) G024 Property Market Game G045 Dragons Cave

G041 Cluedo Compilation G029 Drip/Pool/Welltrix G021 Mahong/Battleships/Chess

#### UTILITIES

U079 Midi Utilities U080 Smovie Titler

U088 Picture Format Convertors U092 Pendle 202 Utilities U100 Spectrum Emulator U101 Soundtracker Mod ST 58

U102 Soundtracker Mod ST U082 Game Trainers Disk U091 Workbench 2 Look A Like

U090 M.E.D.3 U085 Pro-Tracker U084 Cryptic Utilities

### **DEMOS AND MUSIC**

M028 "19"

M029 Iron Maiden (2) S014 Photomontage 1 S015 Photomontage 2

S016 Photomontage 3 S013 Images from Aquarius SD11 Aliens Stideshow

inc. post and packaging This is only a small selection of the hundreds of titles available from our constantly expanding library. Free disk catalogue sent with all orders. You and also call into our showroom and pick up your software. Payment by

Access/Visa or make your cheques of P.O.'s payable to Office Choice Suite 14, Avon House, lown Centre, Cumbernauld, G67 Tel 0236 737901



· The giant bees might look friendly, but touch one of these and you lose a 'life'.

generally smoother and has the added attraction of power-ups.

Edd the Duck is jolly enough and it has the attraction of the TV link. But it is not really one of the all-time greats.

#### SPRING COLOUR

DTP fans and other serious types will be interested to know that both Star and Citizen are offering special promotions on selected printers whereby buyers get a free 'colour kit' with their machines.

Citizen's promotion applies to its four Swift dot-matrix printers - the 9-pin Swift 9 and wide-carriage 9x, and 24-pin Swift 24 and 24x. The colour iii would normally cost around £40. The promotion is only lasting, however, until the end of May.

Meanwhile, Star in offering a similar deal on its FR-10 and XB24-10 'Professional' machines. The other good news for potential buyers is that the Professional range as a whole in down in price. For example the 9-pin FR-10 is down £60 from £459 to £399 and the 24-pin XB24-10 has been chopped £100 M £499.

Citizen can be reached on 0895 72621, while Star's number is 0494 471111.

#### GO ON-LINE - FREE!

Printer buyers aren't the only ones getting the chance of a bargain at the moment. Comms freaks could be saving a few clams from now on too, thanks to Micronet's changed pricing structure. Subscribers can now access the network completely free during off-peak hours (barring the cost of a local phone call). The only snag is that the quarterly subs are now up from £20 to £30. For business users, the subs stay at £30, as previously.

Peak time access charge for Micronet is 8p per minute, so heavy users stand to gain substantially from the new rates. To find out more, call Micronet on 0442 237237.

#### THE FRENCH CONNECTION

French company Loriciels has a couple of interesting games coming up soon. The first will be Quadrel, a one or twoplayer thinking man's game (uh, think I'll) give that one a miss) where the opponents are presented with a grid of blank squares which they have to fill with colour. The one rule is that two adjacent squares cannot be the same colour. Hmm... sound's very, well... sounds very, er, stimulating. I'll let you know on that one.

The second game is Disc, a game which should be great for everyone who's ever tried taking their mate's head off with a Frisbee. It's set long in the future, where armoured gladiators

face each other across a chequerboard playing area and lob steel discs at each other... well, not actually meach other - the idea is to take out the squares that make up the scenery and send your opponent plummeting into a bottomless abyss. Charming.

Loriciel is no longer distributed in the UK by US Gold. All me not lost, however, because the company's products will now be handled over here by Infogrames.

#### CHEATS ALWAYS PROSPER!

John Brown of Wittering has come up with cheats for two games on Amstrad Action's issue 64 covertape! (Cheeky devil...) First of all, the Puzznic demo:

2 '\*\*\*\* Puzznic \*\* AA Freebie

3 '\*\*\*\* JOHN BROWN \*\* Dec 1990 \*\*\*\*

5 4

10 'Adams Puzznic loader 20 OPENOUT "x": MEMORY &4FF: x=&8000

30 READ y: IF y=-99 THEN 50

40 POKE x,y:x=x+1:GOTO 30 50 MODE 1: INK 0,0: INK

1,26:PRINT"Loading 55 LOAD" | PUZZNIC.BIN", &500

56 POKE &4405,0:' Inf. retries

57 POKE &5E30,0:' Inf. time 60 CALL &8000

70 DATA &f3,&01,&00,&70,&11,&40

80 DATA £00,£21,£00,£05,&ed,£b0 90 DATA &c3,&40,&00,-99

And secondly, a Cheat for Lost Caves. (Just delete the line containing the cheat you don't want.)

2 '\*\*\*\* Lost Caves \*\* AA Freebie \*\*\*\* 3 '\*\*\*\* JOHN BROWN \*\* Dec

10 INK 0,0:INK 1,26:MODE 1 12 LOCATE

9,10:PRINT"Loading..."

20 OPENOUT "a": MEMORY & 6FF

30 LOAD "!caves.bin"

40 POKE &1128,0: Inf. lives

50 PORE &10E3.3: Number of lives

60 CALL &1000 Rod Lawton

### PICTUREWARE

Commodore Amiga IS HERE!!!

©N.J.N. Williams 1991

ONLY AVAILABLE FROM. NIK WILLIAMS BROADCAST COMPUTER PICTURE LIBRARY

0792 470503

Unbelievable quality LESS THAN Amazing value!! Amazing value!! PER PICTURE 4096 Colour HAM

32 Colour IFF Please specify when ordering

FOR FULL DETAILS PLEASE SEND SAE

One disk £4.99 Two+ cisks £4.50 each Up to five disks £1P&P Six+ disks post free

Give your Paint Package a treat! A stunning photograph to work from!! Put life into your DTP/DTV: wonder at the quality, 🖼 your imagination run wild!!! See before you buy!!! . Catalogue disk No.1 is 90p & 50p P&P and forms part of our 3 disk demo set which is £3 post paid. Please specify IFF or HAM demonstration disks. Single demo disks also 90p & 50p P&P.

On Pictureware© Catalogue Disk One Are:-

People Disks 1&2 Children Disks 1&2 African Famine Disks 1&2 The Nude Disks 1&2 Edwardian Photo's Disks 1&2

Access Visa

We can accept African Animals Disks 1&2 Silverback Gorilla Disks 1&2 Views W Vietnam Disks 1&2 African Pygmies Disks 1&2 Motorbikes Disks 1&2 Film Crew On Location Disks 182

Cheques **Postal Orders** 

Art In Photography Disks 1&2 During Pictureware's@ development we've created pictures in all sizes and formats. We're providing them for your fun and entertainment on SPECIALLY PRE-FORMATTED FLOPPIES. £9 for 10 disks, post free! No guarantees on this exceptional offer, if you like the pictures use them, if not delete them (much quicker than a disk format), and use the disks as blank floppies!!!

FREE OFFER!!! With every order of six Pictureware® disks - PRE-FORMATTED FLOPPIES!!! (Worth 90p each!!) (Offer closes end of June 1991)

### "YOUR GRAPHICS WILL NEVER BE THE SAME!!!"

Orders by post to:- Nik Williams Broadcast, Aspect House, 21 Brynmill Crescent, Brynmill, Swansea, SA2 0AL. Please allow 21- III days for delivery, 'phone for urgent orders.

24Hr Credit Card Phone/FAX Hotline 0792 645946 (When ordering by telephone please wait for FAX tone to finish, at which point you'll be connected to our telephone system.)

#### **GENLOCKING ON THE CHEAP**

Everyone knows that the Amiga is the machine to own if you're into such 'new age' applications as multimedia and Desk Top Video (DTV). Not only is the range and quality of such software second to none, but much of the hardware needed to get up and running is considerably cheaper than similar devices on other machines.

Take the genlock, for example. If you buy a genlock for a PC then you can expect to pay through the nose for what usually ends up being a rather underpowered device. The Amiga, on the other hand, is absolutely spoilt for genlocks. Whether you're buying equipment for the BBC or just an eager home user, then there's a genlock to suit your needs and budget.

Until recently the only choice for home users on a very tight budget was Applied Engineering's now infamous MiniGen unit. Sure, it was very cheap, but it was hardly going to win any prizes for either quality or features - put simply, it was pretty naff. In most cases, those with any sense ignored MiniGen all together and took the wise decision to plunge in and spend a few extra pounds for a higher quality unit (Rendale's A8802, for example). Unfortunately, the next cheapest genlocks cost over £200 which is far too much for most people's pockets.

If you're feeling the effects of Mr. Major's recession, then Silica Systems has some good news for you. It has just taken on the UK distribution of a rather nifty little genlock from the States which answers to the name of RocGen. For just £117 you get a genlock that boasts many features previously found only on genlocks costing considerably more.

It is a pretty well endowed genlock which will allow you to overlay Amiga graphics onto any incoming composite video source (usually supplied by a video camera or home VCR), and then have the results recorded out to a second video deck.

OK, nothing special so far, but what really makes RocGen shine is that (unlike most genlocks below £500) it boasts powerful fading and overlaying features. Both of these can be controlled in realtime using a built-in control knob, so there's no fiddly

software with which to mess around.

Fade mode allows you to change from a solely computer generated display to just the incoming video signal, Very similar so the overlay mode, in which the incoming video signal is permanently displayed, but you can fade and out the Amiga graphics. This is particularly effective when used in conjunction with a decent video titling package.

As you can probably already appreciate, the RocGen represents a breakthrough in price versus performance for genlocks. Put simply, no other genlock below £500 offers as much as the RocGen. Picture quality isn't quite broadcast quality, but Silica claims that it is still significantly better than that obtainable from MiniGen.

Interested? If so, then give Silica Systems a call on 081 309 1111, You can expect a lim review of this ground breaking device in a future issue of Express (as soon as my review model turns up, basically!).

#### **YIDEO SOLUTION**

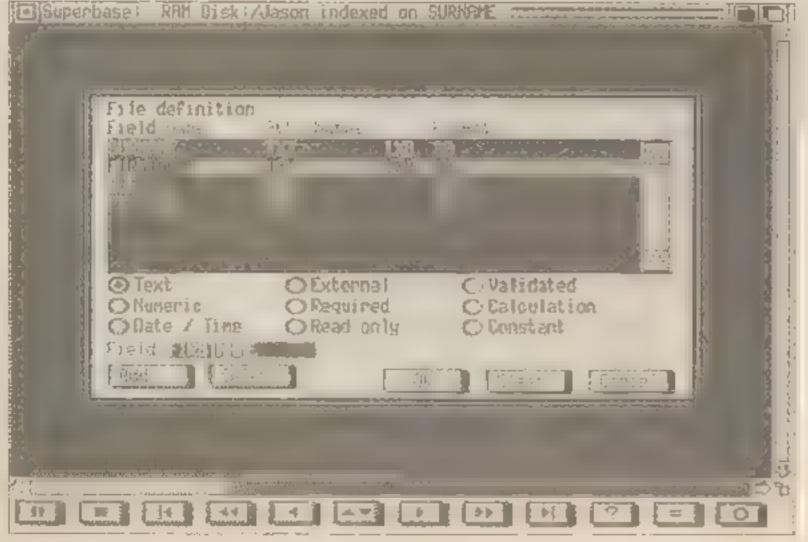
If you're in the market for some pretty high end video applications, then you're sure to have your fancy tickled by a new release from Eschalon Developments. The company has just released a package which it claims is 'everything you'd ever need for video production'.

A bold claim perhaps, but Eschalon seems III think that the £300 package delivers the goods. The package contains separate utilities for creating subtitles and credits, a teleprompter, an image presentation utility (a slideshow), a video pattern generator, colour bar and safe-area generators (wot?), text scroller, nine DPaint-compatible cotour fonts and even a complete multimedia presentation system generator called Ascension.

If your bank manager can handle the phone bill, then contact Eschalon directly on 0101 604 520 1543. If I hear of a UK supplier, then I'll tell you.

#### SNIPPETS

Precision software has launched a new version of its acclaimed relational database management system SuperBase Professional, Version 4 (continued on page 24)>>



SuperBase Professional 3: there's a brand new Workbench 2.0-compatible version out soon.

### SHAREWARE & **PUBLIC DOMAIN**

Qty of disks in brackets

The American Civil War	(1)
Battleground	(1)
Tactical Combat Simulator	(1)
Global Warfare	(1)
Ogre - Tanks in 21st Century	(1)
Air Traffic Controller	(1)
Space War	(1)
No Beer	(1)
EGA Trek	(2)
Triclops Invasion	(1)
Galectic Conquest	(1)
Time Traveller	(1)
Captain Comic	(1)
Big Rig - 18 Wheeler!	(1)
Frigate	(1)
Under The Ice	(1)

### Catalogue with every order

### **AMIGA**

### FROM PREMIER OF U.S.A.

Deskbench	(3)
Toolkit	(5)
Something For Nothing	(2)
Animations Set	(7)

### **GAMES COLLECTION**

70 of the best games (6	5	)	)
-------------------------	---	---	---

### Catalogue with every order

### **DISK PRICES**

1-4 £3 each 5-10 £2.50 each 10+ £2.00 each Plus £2.50 P&P with all orders Credit card accepted



158 London Road South, Lowestoft, Suffolk NR33 0BB Fax: 0502 517057 Tel: 0502 582618

### PRINTER

All of our ribbons are GENUINE manufacturer ribbons - NO copies!

1 x LC10 Black Ribbon	£3.50
5 x LC10 Black Ribbons	£16.95
1 x LC10 Colour Ribbon	£5.20
5 x LC10 Colour Ribbons	£24.95
1 x LC24/10 Ribbon	£4.75
5 x LC24/10 Ribbons	£22.00
1 x LC200 Colour Ribbon	210.00
5 x LC200 Colour Ribbons	£50.00
1 x LC24-200 Mono Long Life	£7.50
5 x LC24-200 Mono Long Life	£37.50
1 x LC24-200 Colour Ribbon	C11OO
5 x LC24-200 Colour Ribbons	£55.00
Swift 24 Mono Ribbons (each)	£5.00
Swift 24 Colour Ribbons (each)	£13.95

### ATARI LYNX

Juny Comes Machine	MA
Lynx Games Machine - (with California Games) Lynx Games Machine	£117.50
- (no free software)	295.00
Lynx Carry Case Lynx Sun Visor Lynx Car Adaptor	£14.99 £6.99 £9.50
Blue Lightning Chips Challenge Electrocop Gates of Zendocon Xenophobe Robo Squash Road Blasters Rampage Ms Pacman Shanghai Zarlor Mercenary Gauntlet 3 Rygar Slime World Klax Paperboy	£19.99 £20.50 £19.99 £19.99 £21.00 £19.99 £21.00 £19.99 £21.00 £23.00 £21.00 £19.99 £19.99 £19.99 £20.50

### ATARIST / AMIGA STEREO COLOUR MONITOR

The Philips 8833 Mkill is the perfect colour monitor for all ST and Amiga owners. With its high quality picture and stereo sound it really makes the STE or Amiga perform to it's full.

12 months on-site warranty FREE!

£ 249.99

including vat and delivery

Supplied with 1 cable free of charge. Options are :-Atari STE Stereo cable or Atari STFM cable or Amiga stereo cable

### PRINTERS

All of our printers come with a parallel cable to suit Atari ST, Amiga and all standard PC etc (other cables available at extra cost - ask for details). All printers carry a full 12 months warranty. We only sell genuine UK stock - we do not offer inferior "grey imports".

CIED ANTES SHOULD ANTE	44 4133
Star I C10 Mono (9-pip)	
Star LC10 Mono (9-pin)	£155.00
Star LC200 Colour (9-pin)	£225.00
Star LC24-10 Mono (24-pin)	£215.00
Star LC24-15 Mono 15" (24-pin)	£399.00
Star LC24-200 Mono (24-pin)	£265.00
Star LC24-200 Colour (24-pin)	£295.00
Star XB24-10 Mono (24-pin)	£479.00
Star XB24-15 Mono 15" (24-pin)	£609.00

### **Panasonic**

Panasonic KXP1624 15" (24-pin)
Hewlett Packard Deskjet 500
Citizen 124D (24-pin)
Citizen Swift 24 (24-pin)
Canon BJ10E Portable Bubble Jet

£34.99

Canon BJ10E Portable Bubble Jet £349.00

PRINTER ACCESSORIES
Swift 24 Colour Kit £34.99 Deskjet - FX85 Mod £59.99

### ATARI ST ACCESSORIES

SMt24 Mono Monitor

399.00
529.95
269.00
199.00
£19.95
£14.95
£12.99
£12.99
£12.99
£12.99
£4.99
£3.95
£5.95
£3.50
£6.99
£2.30
£3.00
£2.00
F

Sequencer One (ST) £69.00 Dr.T Tiger Cub (ST) £64.99 C-Lab Notator V3.0 PI.NG C-Lab Notator Alpha V1.0 RING C-Lab Creator V3.0 **FLNG** C-Lab Aura \*NEW\* RING Steinberg Cubase V2,0 **RING** Steinberg Cubeat \*LOW PRICE\* RING Steinberg Voice Editors RING

ST SOFTWARE PACKS
DISCOVERY SOFTWARE £17,50
Contents: STOS, First Basic, NeoChrome
4 games
TURBO SOFTWARE (STEONLY) £24.99
Contents: STOS, First Basic, Hyper Paint
II, Music Maker II 8 games

TENSTAR PACK SOFTWARE £29.95
Contents: Asterix, Chass Player 2150,
Driving Force, Live Let Die, Onslaught,
Pipemania, Rick Dangerous, Rock & Roll,
Squeek Trivial Pursuit &
EXTRA PACK SOFTWARE £39.95
Contents: K-Word K-Sprand K-Data

Contents : K-Word, K-Spread, K-Data, K-Graph, Basic, STAC and Prince

### ACCESSORIES ...

Star XB Colour Kit

CONTRIVER 5 in 1 MOUSE

The 5 in 1 mouse is compatible with the Atari ST, Amiga A500, Amstrad PC, Schnieder PC and Commodore PCIII. Also includes a mouse mat and a mouse house. £21.00

DISK DRIVE CLEANING KITS

3.5" - £3.75 5.25" - £3.75 DUST COVERS

Deskiet - Ink Cart

£389.00

£469.00

£235.00

£299.00

£14.99

High quality tailored dust covers.

Available for:

Atari ST: £6.99 each Amiga A500: £6.99 each LC10 printer: £4.99 each SM124 monitor: £7.99 each Philips 8833: £7.99 each

All of our blank disks are guaranteed and supplied with labels. Our 3.5" unbranded disks are of the highest quality double sided media. All Sony Branded disks are boxed and supplied with labels. All disk prices include vat and delivery. Ring for prices on larger quantities.

QUANTITY	10	20	30	50	100
UNBRANDED 3.5" DS/DD	5.99	10.99	15.99	25.99	44.99
SONY BRANDED 3.5° 2DE	9.50	18.50	26.50	42.50	80.50
UNBRANDED 3.5" HD	14.95	27.95	39.95	59.95	114.95
SONY BRANDED 3.5" HDD	26.50	50.50	74.50	115.50	227.50
UNBRANDED 5.25" 360K	3.25	6.25	9.25	14.95	28.25
SONY BRANDED 5.25" 2D	7.95	14.95	21.95	34.95	68.95
SONY BRANDED 5.25" HDD	12.99	23.99	34.99	54.99	99.99

### MOUSE MATS

High quality neoprene soft mouse mats. £ 3.50

PRINTER
STANDS
2 piece plastic
printer stand with
paper space
underneath (fits
virtually any printer)
£9.95

DISK

3.5" 40 cap £4.95 3.5" 80 cap £7.95 5.25" 50 cap £6.95 5.25" 100 ca £9.95

### MONITOR PLYNTH

Are you running out of desk space? Then we have the ideal desk space saver!! The monitor plynth is a high quality, fully painted, metal unit on which will house either an Atari ST or Amiga A500 underneath, while having your TV/monitor standing on top.

£24.99

TOTAL CONTROLL

### Atari Dortfolio

Atari Portfolio Pocket PC £169.00 Portfolio 128K Memory Card  $\Sigma 119.99$ Portfolio 64K Memory Card £84.95 Portfolio 32K Memory Card £44.99 Portfolio Mains Power Adaptor £11.99 Portfolio Parallei Interface £38.00 €54.95 Portfolio Serial Interface Portfolio Super Memory Expander £165.00 Portfolio Card Drive £59.99 £44.99 Finance Card software Utilities Card software £44.99 PC Application software £44.99

### AMIGA

512K Ram Upgrade + clock A590 20Mb Hard Disk drive Stereo Hi Fi Speakers Astra Pack software Roctec external disk drive Golden Image Handy Scanner Amiga Stereo Scart Lead Amiga Stereo Lead Mkll 8833 VIDI Amiga Video Digitiser Master Sound 1

£12.99 £12.99 £99.99 £38.95

£29.99

£37.50

£29.95

285.00

£199.00

£284.95

SOFTWARE PACK

Platinum Works, Deluxe Paint 3,
Populous, Sim City, Battle Chess
and Their Finest Hour
ALL FOR ONLY

£ 89.95

Amh

ALL ATARI ST PRICES INCLUDE VAT AND UK DELIVERY. ALL PRODUCTS CARRY A FULL 12 MONTH WARRANTY. PLEASE RING US BEFORE ORDERING TO CHECK STOCKS AND CURRENT PRICES. ALL OF OUR STE COMPUTERS HAVE THE "PLUG-IN" RAM SOCKETS AND DO NOT REQUIRE A SOLDERED IN RAM UPGRADE. ALL OF OUR STE COMPUTERS ALSO HAVE THE NEW DMA CHIP SET ALLOWING TROUBLE FREE OPERATION WITH ATARI HARD DISK DRIVES.

Riche

£249.00

£259.00

£275.00

312K	IIII	ZIIIU	411110
ATARI STE STANDARD PACK. consists of the computer with			
mouse, ty lead, mapual and all connecting leads etc. The Standard Pack is supplied £299.00	C329.00	£359.00	£439.00

with NO software. ATARI STE DISCOVERY, consists of the Standard Pack and STOS, First Basic, NeoChrome and 4 games (Carrier Command, Space Harrier, £449.00 £339.00 £369.00 00.002

Outrus Bomb Jack) ATARI STE TURBO, consists of Standard Pack and STOS, Basic, Hyper Paint II, Music Maker II 8 games (Indiana Jones, Impossible Mission II, H.K.M. £349.00 £379.00 £459.00 2319.00 Super Cycle, Outrun, Dragons Breath, Anarchy & Blood Money)

ATARI STE TENSTAR. consists of Standard Pack and Asterix. £349.00 £379.00 £459.00 Chess Player 2150, Driving Force, Live . Let Die, Onslaught, Pipemania, Rick £319.00 Dangerous, Rock n Roll, Squeek and Trivial Pursuit It

ATARI STE EXTRA. consists of Standard Pack and Kuma word processor, database, spreadsheet & business graphics as well as First Basic, £329.00 £359.00 £389.00 £469.00 Hyper Paint, STAC Adventure game designer and Prince game. ATARI STE CURRICULUM. consists of Standard Pack and also

3 levels of educational software (from 5 yrs to 50 yrs !!), a word processor, a CO.6683 00'6983 £479.00 2339.00 apreadsheet, a database, HyperPaint and Music Maker II software.

520STFM STANDARD. consists of the computer with mouse, tv lead, manual and all connecting leads etc. The Standard Pack is supplied with NO £239.00 software.

520STFM DISCOVERY, consists of the Standard Pack and STOS, First Basic, NeoChrome and 4 games (Carrier Command, Space Harrier, Outrun, Bomb Jack)

299.99

399.00

529.95

£69.00

£199.00 £19.95 £14.95 £12.99 £12.99 £12.99

£12.99

£4.99

£3.95 £5.95

£3.50

\$6.99 £2.30

£3.00

£2.00

269.00

£64.99

RING RING!

RING

RING

RING RING

RUNG

217.50

nrome

24.99

Paint

29.95

Roll,

39.95

9.99

4.95 37.50

5.00

9.99 8.95

ERING

t 3.

9.00

9.99

4.95 4.99

11.99 8.00

4.95

9.99

4.99

520STFM TENSTAR. consists of Standard Pack and Asterix, Chess Player 2150, Driving Force, Live + Let Die, Onslaught, Pipemania, Rick Dangerous, Rock n Roll, Squeek and Trivial Pursuit II

520STFM EXTRA. consists of Standard Pack and Kuma word processor, database, spreadsheet & business graphics as well as First Basic, Hyper Paint, STAC Adventure game designer and Prince game.

### STE RAM KITS

2 make

DIY I KIT 520STE to IMB { 2 x 256K cards } 234.99 DIY 2 KIT - 520/1040 to 2MB (2 x 1MB cards M £99.00 DIY 4 KIT ~ 520/1040 to 4MB (4x 1MB cards) £179:00 ALL RAM KITS ARE SUPPLIED WITH INSTRUCTIONS. PLEASE CHECK YOUR STE CONFIGURATION BEFORE ORDERING

### 

AMIGA A500 BASE PACK A500 computer, mouse, tv modulator, manuals, Workbench, etc supplied bare' with no £299.00 games software

AMIGA A500 1MB PACK A500 computer with extra 512K ram expansion, mouse, tv modulator, manuals, Workbench, etc supplied 'bare' with no games software

AMIGA A500 ASTRA PACK A500 512k computer, mouse, tv modulator, manuala, Workbench, etc supplied with 10 great software titles (see A500 tMB ASTRA pack below for details)

AMIGA A500 1MB ASTRA PACK Arriga A500 computer, 512K Ram expansion with clock and battery back-up. mouse, ty modulator, manuals, Workbench etc disks, plus the ASTRA 10 games pack includirity the following games: Datastorm, Dungeon Quest, E Motion, Grand Monster Slam, Kid Gloves, Powerplay, RVF Honda, Shuffle Puck Cafe, Soccer and Tower of Babel

AMIGA A500 "1500" PACK Amiga A500 computer, 512K Ram expansion with clock and battery back-up, mouse, ty modulator, manuals, Workbench etc diaks, plus Amiga A1500 software pack comprising of Platimun Works, Deluxe Paint 3, Simm City. Battle Chess and Their Finest Hour

AMIGA A1500 BASE PACK A1500 1Mb RAM (expandable to 9Mb) computer with 2 x 3.5° 880k disk drives built in. and a mouse. The A1500 base pack is supplied without software.

AMIGA A1500 PACK A1500 1Mb RAM (expandable to 9Mb) computer with 2 x 3.5" 880k disk drives built in, mouse and the following software: Platinum Works, Deluxe Paint 3, Populous, Simm City, Battle Chesa, Their Finest Hour (Battle of Britain) and 2 books: "The A-Z of Computer Jargon" and "Getting the most from your Amiga"

£325.00

£325.00

2350.00

2399,00

2599,00

£655.00

### ST GAMES LESS THAN £3.00 EACH 🧟

Asterix Chess Player 2150. Driving Force Live Let Die, Rick Onslaught Pipemania Rock Dangerous

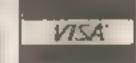
Squeek & Trivial Pursuil II All of the above games are available

in the Jenstar Software pack for only 20 OK

thats less than £3 each! (requires double sided internal disk drive) NB: These games are not available seperately

### BEST PRICES MAIL ORDER

(DEPT NCE), UNIT A, GRAFTON PLACE, WORTHING, WEST SUSSEX. BN11 1QX



(0903)700714



TELESALES 10am till 12 midnight Telesales : Mon to Sat Returns, Technical & Queries : Mon to Fri (Toam till 6pm)

All prices include 17.5% VAT and tree UK delivery (average 4 - 5 days) unless otherwise stated. All prices / specifications / special offers are subject to change without notice. Goods usually despatched same day as cleared payment is received. Personal cheque clearance takes 7 days. Please make cheques/P.O's out to BEST PRICES. Mail order only. No callers. Thank You. ADD \$7,00 INC VAT FOR NEXT WORKING DAY UK DELIVERY, ADD \$37.50 INC FOR SATURDAY UK DELIVERY



# TEGHTIES

Not sure if US software will run on your machine? Need some tips on programming data? Or even got some tips you can share? Send your stories and queries to Keith Pomfret. Tech Tips New Computer Express, 30 Monmouth Street, Bath BA1 2BW.



### FAME is the spur

if you have a home grown program that you wish to share, all that you need to do is follow a few simple rules and you could go on the program register.

- The program must be for Amiga,
   PC, ST, Mac, Archimedes, CPC,
   SAM, QL or C64.
- 2) By sending it to Tech Tips you place it in the public domain.
- 3) it must be on a disk.
- 4) The disk must be labelled with the program name, your name and phone number, the machine that it runs on and what it does. Any disks not labelled thus will be formatted and given away.
- 5) The disk must contain the program and any data or libraries that it needs to run, it must also contain the listing or source code for the program in plain ASCII format.
- 6) You must include on typed or printed sheet listings or source code, details on what language and implimentation it was written in.
- 7) You must consent to the publication of your phone number. This is so that like minded souts can get together. Experience has shown that when more than one person works on a program or project, the results can be stunning. (Marriage of minds and all that)

All of the programs will be run to verify that they work. Those particularly good will be featured in Tech Tips or Circuit City and the rest will go into the register which will be published from time to time, and used as a source of help in Tech Tips.

If you have a program that fills the above criteria send it to Express Tech Tip Proggy-Hole, 29 Monmouth Street, Bath BA1 2BW.

Ar fant sending of rain is a single or refurbished program will be snopped.



### **HELP!** American Amiga

At the end ill April I shall be going to America for a few weeks study leave (I know, terrible life isn't it) and I thought to myself, what a great chance to lay my hands on some wangdangdoody American software, for my Amiga A500

But, my precocious son informs me that American software will not run on British spec' machines. I've asked a number of "informed" people who tell me they know the answers in these sort of questions, but their advice is contradictory.

So before I exchange my hard earned travellers cheques for some potentially useless software, I would in inordinately grateful if you could give me a definitive answer to this perplexing conundrum.

I realise you must be inundated with readers enquiries, but I really would appreciate an answer before my departure the 27th M April.

Dr Mark Stevens, Oxford

How could I resist the opportunity make a doctor inordinately grateful. The simple answer is that Amiga software in the US will work on UK machine. The difference between a US and UK Amiga is the display. In the UK, we use the PAL system 16 625 display lines on the screen and everything kept hunky-dory by a 180 degree alteration in phase on alternate lines. This is why the UK TV system looks so good compared with the nasty US system.

In the US they use a 525 line standard called NTSC (and known to engineers as Never Twice Same Colour). The US system doesn't benefit from Phase alternation and the colours tend to drift. This is why on some US TV sets you see a tint control. This helps to redress the colour balance.

As you can see by the numbers, the US system is 100 lines per screen shorter than the UK system.

Well written software will first check to see what sort of machine it is running on and then adjust its display accordingly. Software sourced in the US, though, may not be able to do this and will consequently produce a shorter picture on the screen. This won't stretch or squeeze the picture or interfere with the aspect ratio in any way. The picture will be in correct proportion, only shorter. This isn't a problem as many imported games have been sold in this country

with the short NTSC screen and although a waste of display area, it doesn't affect the playability.

Having said all of that, no Amiga will always be 100 per cent compatible with every piece of software and sod's law dictates that the one game you buy in the US will be the one that bombs out. Have a nice trip and send us a postcard.



### **HELP!** Big screen

Is there any way to attach a large screen monitor to an Amiga B2000. I have tried connecting it to a TV set with a 21-inch screen, but the result was more fuzzy than a Spectrum Hi-Res display and even games became painful to look at. The TV has a composite video input, but this is black and white when connected to the Amiga's composite video output.

I don't want to get more information on the screen in the manner of DTP where up to an A2 screen can be displayed. Just producing a larger Amiga screen will be good enough. I'm sure that there's a way to use the TV, but what price large monitors? I heard that a simple colour A3 sized monitor for a DTP set up could run into thousands. Am I stuck with the telly?

Dave Morgan, Pinner

To connect your B2000 to the TV you must be using the Amiga modulator. This has an output giving composite video that should give you a colour picture on your TV. The composite output is next to the input for sound and is a standard phono connector.

If you don't want to spend thousands upon thousands buying a hunky colour monitor there's some good news for you. Another batch of Canadian JVC Electrohomes has come into view See the next letter.



### **HELP!** Big ones

Recently some of your correspondents have mentioned a monitor called an Electrohome which no-one seems to know much about. I, too, have ended up with one these heavyweight monstrosities. Has any information come to light about them?

Neil Fisher, West Midlands.

Yes it has. The Electrohome is a 90 pound heavyweight heavy duty steel composite video monitor in a cabinet. These were constructed by Electrohome

in Canada using proprietary and JVC parts. In its standard form the electrohome is a composite colour monitor, but bruted in Manchester is selling them with a modification to take an RGB input via a SCART connector.

An electrohome is winging its way down the M62, M6, M5 and M4 and when it arrives (soon we hope) it will go under the Circuit City Spotlight.



### **THANKS!** One and all

Please could you publish a letter to say thank-you to all the readers who took the time to help me with the sort on my BASIC program. I have now incorporated a sort successfully and have achieved the desired results – well almost; I haven't won a jackpot yet. Thanks again and keep up the good work.

Trevor Cobbe, Leicester

Thanks to the hundred plus people who solved Trevor's problem in various ways. As there are obviously many of you out there with a bent and a will toward programming, I'm opening a proggy-hole in Tech Tip



### TIP! Age of Aquarius

Here is some info from Mr Bentham (Express 121), for Aquarius. If they are still available:-

The Aquarius and how to get the most from it. By Ian Sinclair, Published by Granada Publishing Ltd, 8 Grafton Street, London W1X 3LA. ISBN 0-246-12295-1

The Aquaruis Program Book by Peter Goode. Phoenix Publishing Associates, 14 Vernon Road, Bus Hey, Herts WD2 2JL. ISBN 0-9465-7608-4.

Also Football/number randomizer. In Stos Basic.

10 KEY OF : CLW

20 CENTRE "NUMBER RANDOM-

IZER" ; PRINT

30 INPUT "SELECT NUMBERS TO RANDOMIZER 1 TO ": AR

40 INPUT "NUMBER OF SELEC-

TION 1 TO ";ES

50 DIM A (AR), # (AR)

60 FOR I=1 TO AR

80 NEXT

90 FOR D=1 TO ES

100 B=RND (AR)

110 IF A(B)=0 THEN 100

120 Z  $\{B\} = B$ 

130 A (B) = 0

140 NEXT

150 FOR D = 1 TO AR

160 IF Z(D)=0 THEN 180

170 PRINT 2 (D)

180 NEXT

190 PRINT : PRINT : PRINT

"WILL YOU BE MAKING ANY MORE SELECTIONS:-"

200 INPUT "ENTER Y OR N"; K\$

210 IF K\$ = "Y" OR K\$ = "Y"

THEN CLW : GOTO 🔤

220 IF K\$ = "N" OR K\$ = "N" THEN END.

For anyone needing more 20 selections insert line 'no' 165 wait key.

D George, Cleveland.



### **HELP! Printer memory**

Over the years I have read some great answers to knobby questions posed by your readers and now hope you may able to help me.

I have an Epson LX80 DMP (an oldie but a goodie!) which is blessed with a tiny printer buffer (it's also on loan to the "Brother-in-Law" at the moment, hence old-fashioned pen and paper) and I am curlous to know it it can easily be upgraded with the currently available supply of cheap RAM. I'm thinking of about 64K, more would a nice, but perhaps I'm being too optimistic. If not, what will fit in?

I'm what you would call a "wipe-head"
I suppose, although I normally work on
alightly bigger stuff (high-powered TV
transmitters and the like) so fitting would
be no problem in the workshop III dinner
time or after hours.

I know I could use a cheap PD printer spooler with my computer but the printer is going to be used for other things, and it seems to me it would be easier to pop in a few K or so of RAM rather than construct a separate parallel print buffer (just another box to clutter up the bench etc etc).

So if you could indulge yourself in a little investigative techno-journalism on my behalf I would be most grateful. Thank you.

M I Stollor, Manchester

The sort of 64K upgrade that you describe would be fine if there was anywhere to stot the chips. The folks down at Epson tell me confidently that there isn't so it's the dreaded PD spooter or the elegant print buffer

if you've an old micro lying around, you could quite simply write a program in BAStC to turn it into a spooler. We've used a 128K Apricot in the office for this and we know of people using life expired BBCBs, CPCs C64s, etc, as printer buffers. I'm sure that several in our readers will also offer programs to do just that.



### **TIP! First CUT**

With reference to the letter from Neil Hirst of Hereford **Express** 121, concerning his problem converting CUT graphic files.

The PD version of ICONVERT has a number of features missing, however, if he purchases the full version (Revision 1.49) he will find that it will convert both to and from the following formats:

ASCII, BLOAD, CompuServe, Dr Halo
II, Doodle(CBM)

First Publisher, FONTASY, GEM, IFF, MacPaint, NewsMaster, Newsroom, PC Paintbrush, Printmaster, Printshop, Windows Paint

CUT files can like converted using the Dr Halo II option and details on how to obtain a full version are included in the DOC file accompanying his like version.

Another alternative, again not PD, is a program called The Graphics Link Plus version 2.00b by Terravision Inc. This package will convert graphics between the following formats:

Zsoft File Format PCC or PCX,
Microsoft Windows, Paint, MSP,
GEM/Ventura Publisher IMG, Aldus
Pagemaker, TIFF (TIF) PIX, EGA/VGA
Paint+/Pictor PIC, Dr Halo CUT, Macintosh
MacPaint, WordPerfect Graphics Format
WPG, Show Partner /FX (GX1), PFS First
Publisher MAC, CompuServe GIF format
and Lotus Manuscript Bitmap BIT.

In addition it offers a number of features such as: Dither colour images/Trace colour or BW images – Scale Images -Print Images.

I hope this information solves the problem and if Neil requires any "instant" conversion I will be glad to help. He can contact me on 0707 271529 after about 8pm any evening.

Brian H Barton, Hertfordshire



### **HELP!** Modem economy

I'll try not to take up too much of your time with my questions.

I own an Amiga 500 and I am contemplating Purchasing a modem.

Which one would ■ cheaper and more economical to run – a 24 or 4800 baud rate?

Neil Roach, Gwent

A 2400 modern would be cheaper to buy but as a 4800 modern runs twice as fast, if you plan to do a lot of uploading and downloading, the 4800 modern would soon pay the price differential back in smaller phone bills.



### TIP! data dater

In response to the plea in your column on the 124, here is my attempt at a dating/ matching program for the Amiga. I have tried to make it as simple and quick to use as possible. For instance, at the data is put into RAM: when the program loads, to speed up searches.

Instructions can be found in the readme doc file - the disk just autoboots.

Alzotoads (couldn't think of a better name) is written in Amos, which is not the best language for this sort of application. I am attempting C, having got the Socobon C computer, but there are so many flipping (<{[}]>) brackets! How about an easy guide © C in a future issue?

Alan Singfield, Merseyside

It works fine and we've passed it down the line to the guy who wanted to put his card index dating agency on computer. He's as chuffed as a dog with two tails and this is the first prog to get the Express Proggy-Hole seal of approval and go in the library.



### **TIP! Specload**

Regarding "Help! Spectrum interface" Tech Tips issue 114. Could you pass the following information on Simon Longland re reloading snapshot images saved using the Technology Research disk interface.

To reload a snapshop image: GOTO "filename" CODE <ENTER> if this fails to work, rename the file such that it begins with a "\$" and try again (something to do with some games using a non-standard key scan routine!?). NB The disk(s) used for snapshot images MUST be formatted as single-sided.

Sorry is reply so long after the query was printed - but as they say, better late than never!

Where can I get a 2:1 SCART switcher from? I've got an STFM and an A500 but only one 8833 monitor and I don't want ■ keep swapping the leads over.

Richard Jibson, Stockport.

You can get the SCART Switcher from Trilogic on 0274 678062. Thanks for the tips and help.



ı etlil

most

r. In

### HELP! Amiga IBM drives

I have an Amiga A500 and spent the last of my cash on a Trilogic memory upgrade (to 1Mb), a SCART switcher and SCART monitor.

Now I find that the Amiga with one disk drive is about as much use as a one legged man in an arse-kicking contest. We didn't do woodwork at school when I was a lad so I'm not able to make a peg-leg for the Amiga. Drives are very expensive and I can't afford them but I am in a position to buy cheaply a couple of IBM clone 720K drives for £15 each. We are going over to the high density 1,44Mb kind at college so these are available.

Everyone in the world says that you can't use an IBM type drive with an Amiga, but I'm sure Uncle Tech Tip knows different.

Allan Taplow, Walsall

It is possible to persuade an Amiga to talk to a PC drive directly, but you will need to be a fairly competent solderer and have a good grasp of logic and circuit construction.

The power for the first external drive on an Amiga

can be taken directly from the Amiga but if you are planning to connect any more peripherals the Amiga's power supply will probably curl up its toes and die at the thought.

If you' want to err towards safety, you'll need a separate power supply providing the necessary 12v and 5v. These can generally be picked up at computer fairs and auctions, but should be checked with a good multimeter to see if they are still within specification. A reasonable price to pay for a stable power supply at an Auction or computer fair is about £8-£15.

Often it is possible to get power supplies that were originally intended to supply power to hard disk computers. These invariably offer more power than you need for a couple of disk drives and a few peripherals.

Amiga, you need a couple of logic chips, seven resistors and two quarts of midnight oil. The tayout is on stripboard (Tandy sells this) and all of the other components are easily sourced. The diagram shows cuts marked in the strips by a diagonal mark. The

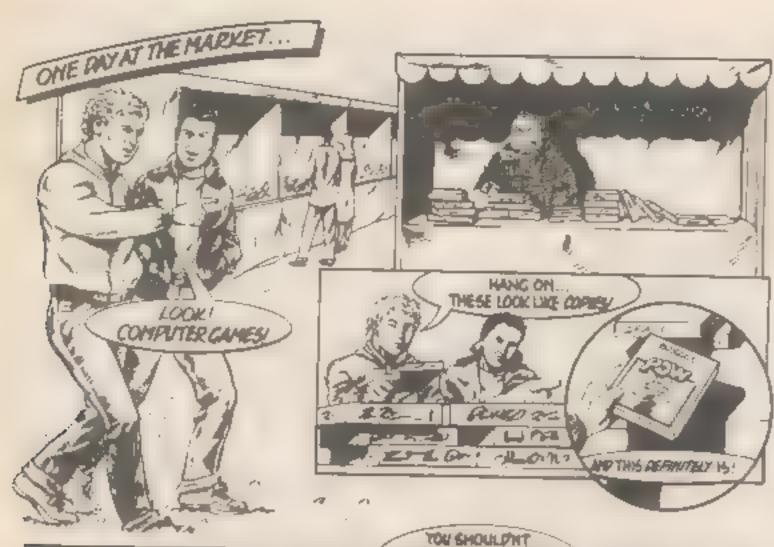


• You can get your Amiga to talk to your PC.

stripboard should be at least 25 strips wide and a similar length.

This isn't a simple project and is traught with danger for the unwary hobbyist. Don't even think about attempting it unless you are prepared to risk your warranty and your Amiga.

On the up side, if you don't feel like doing it yourself, you could ring Paul Simpson at Simpson Electronics who redesigned this board from an earlier and slightly less satisfactory effort. He should be able to build you the necessary board and advise you on power supplies. Simpson is on 0332 760353.









FOR INFORMATION
LEADING TO A
PROSECUTION
& CONVICTION



ELSPA

ANY INFORMATION ON PIRACY SHOULD BE PASSED TO F.A.S.T. (THE FEDERATION AGAINST SOFTWARE THEFT)

TELEPHONE 0386 833501 151

IMPORTANT NOTICE



DOWLING COMPUTERS

ARE NOW ADVERTISING
BI-WEEKLY.

THIS IS IN ORDER TO GIVE YOU,
THE CUSTOMER, THE BEST
POSSIBLE PRICES.
SO RESERVE YOUR COPY OF
NEXT WEEK'S ISSUE, NOW!

Mon-Fri 0480 403222 Sat 0480 403304

UNIT 3, FORGE CLOSE, LITTLE END ROAD, EATON SOCON, CAMBS

boasts many new and undoubtedly

useful features, but the major change is
the inclusion of an all-new Workbench

2.0-like user interface. Let's just hope
Precision has also scrapped the bloody
stupid dongle protection that they used
within previous releases (I hate
dongles!!!!!).

You can expect a full review of SuperBase Professional 4 in Express as soon as I can sweet talk Precision into sending me a review copy, but you can find out more by contacting the company on OSI 330 7166.

On the subject of video software,

ZVP has announced the impending
release of a new professional version of
its Video Studio system. Described as
an 'integrated video post production
system', VideoStudio Professional offers
powerful titling and captioning software,
plus such things as clocks and test
cards. For more information, contact
ZVP on 0268 411719.

Commodore has produced an allnew and vastly enhanced version of its
BBC Emulator, The Emulator (catchy
name Commodore!). The new release is
said to the completely Workbench 2.0
compatible (I should hope so too),
includes support for faster processors
and will even allow the Amiga to directly
read BBC and Archimedes diskettes
within Amiga drives (on 3.5 inch disk, of
course). The new Beeb emulator will set
you back £40. Contact Commodore on
0628 770088.

#### SERIOUS PD

I'm always pleased to receive some new PD (hint, hint, all you PD suppliers), so you can imagine how overjoyed I was when a nice little batch of disks fell onto my doormat early one morning.

They were sent to me by my old friend Tony Thompson, who many readers will probably know better as the main man at that well known PD house George Thomson Services (phone 077082 234). GTS specialises in utilities software, so I spent many a happy hour sifting through the disks for some decent software and I certainly wasn't disappointed.

Here's a quick run down of just one of the PD Packs that Tony sent me, namely Disk Utilities vol 1 (it consists of two disks):

TrackDisplay - Does exactly as you'd expect. It displays a small strip along the top of the screen that displays the current tracks being accessed by any mounted floppy drives.

FastDisk 2 – Optimise your floppies to speed up directory and file loading.

TrackSalve – This patches the Amiga's trackdisk, device, adding several new features and fixing a couple of bugs that Commodore left in. Most notably, it can also turn off the annoying click that is present when a drive is empty.

SetNoClick – If TrackSalve is too heavy for you, then SetNoClick will let you turn

off disk clicking in a jiffy.

FixDisk – If Diskdoctor throws in the towel, then let FixDisk have a go at rescuing data from any corrupted disks.

MenuWriter – Create bootblock menus for all your disks. Very good indeed.

Scrub – A floppy disk cleaning program that can automatically detect which drive the cleaner diskette is in.

AngusCopy – I don't know who the helf
Angus is, but he's written a pretty
decent disk copier. It doesn't handle
protected disks, but then that's naughty
anyway.

Jason Holborn

## rchinedes

#### OLDIE BUT GOODIE

I've recently got into the habit of using a diary. It's not that my life is so action-packed that I can't remember which day it is, but simply that other people need to know where I am. Timewatch has come to the rescue.

This allows me to type in details of appointments, notes, and those annoying reminders of people's birthdays, the car tax renewal date and so on. My diary data file sits on a network where it can be accessed by anyone, so they can tell when I'm not going to be around.

Timewatch does a pretty good job of the basics, it works on the desktop, prints via the RISC OS drivers, and the display can be narrowed down to just appointments, or notes and reminders too. At the end of each day, I take home a printed sheet showing what I should be doing tomorrow. I'm beginning to like the system, despite the basic nature of the daily printout.

Timewatch costs £30 (rattlin' good value) from Mitre Software who can be contacted on 071-283 4646.

What I'd like to see from a future version of this software is encryption of the diary data and password protection (all as an option) — so that even on a network I could keep sections of my

diary private – and better printouts, using the pretty printing features of the 198 new Acorn printer drivers – bold, italic and so on – rather than the messy equals sign underlining of the current version. It could even have ready-made formats for personal organiser-size paper built-in. And what about a week-planner view on-screen that shows hours blocked off where appointments are already arranged?

As the screen shots in the last couple of issues of Express have shown, translation of Acorn sprites to TIFF format is still not yet perfect. How was

it done?

Foster Findlay's X Image, a £10 program for the PC (VGA-equipped so it can't run under the PC Emulator) that can read Arc sprite files on MS-DOS disks and translate them into a variety of weird formats including TIFF, proved workable for 256-colour sprites and coped with a screen sprite from Fourth Dimension's saloon car racing game. But it did not take kindly to a mode 12 screen, resulting in the inverted palette effect visible in the screenshot in Express 126. All the resulting TIFFs were greyscaled; the colours of the original sprites were lost. And I couldn't



· This picture from the Revelation paint package comes to you copurtesy of a new compression package called Creator.

read the TIFFs back onto the Arc using ChangeFSI.

sts of

rou'd

es to

niga's

s that

l can

neavy

turn

Not a perfect solution for TIFF, but it's still invaluable if you're working with satellite pictures, medical images and so on, because it copes with many specialised image formats. Foster Findlay is on 091-273 1111.

On the TIFF front, help is at hand. Many PD libraries offer a version of MakeTIFF and MakeGIF by John Kortink. But now a new version, Creator, merges the two, and allows you to specify the compression used for TIFF to none at all, 'Packbits' or the Lempel, Ziv Welch scheme. Packbits compression can be handled by most PC and Mac applications that import TIFFs. LZW is actually more efficient on most images but fewer programs can import the resulting TIFFs.

Creator is fast and it manages to retain the colour in a TIFF. My only gripe is that there's no way of setting up the default conversion; it always starts up with GIF selected. But I still strongly recommended it if you need to export any sprites from your system. The frog picture from Longman Logotron's Revelation painting package, was converted to a TIFF file with Creator before being imported into the Express Macintosh system for publication.

### OTHER IMAGING NEWS

Colour Screen to Mac from Human Computer Interface, mentioned in Express 126, costs a steep £110. And the latest version of John Kortink's Translator utility for importing graphics files from other machines to the Arc. (version 6.36) is much improved over the previous version I had.

### "BE MY GUEST", SAYS SID

Acorn's Support Information Database is a mine of useful, free telesoftware. Unlike getting software from one of the many PD libraries, it's available instantly if you have a modem.

Up until now, much of the service has been available only to registered SID users, but Acorn has now opened up much more of the system to 'casual callers' in particular the telesoftware section. You can download the latest version 2 printer drivers, lots of games and demos and a vast selection of desktop utilities.

I log on to SID via its Micronet gateway (\*SID#), and it took me a half hour phone call to download the latest versions of ChangeFSI and Creator (see below). Even if you take into account the phone charges and Micronet charges (a penny a minute at off-peak times), it's competitive with most PD disks. SID's guest access is on 0223-243642 (Prestel standards).

Arcterm 7 from The Serial Port

proves ideal for downloading telesoftware. It has all the fife transfer protocols you could ever need, and multitasks on the desktop. As I write this, the last few bytes of Creator are pouring onto my hard disk, and I'll pause in a km to log off.

#### PD SOURCE

How do you get things like Creator, the latest printer drivers or C Library 3.66? With Acorn software like the C library. your local dealer should be able to help. But sadly not all can, and SID, a bulletin board like the World of Cryton (0749-679794 or 670030, virtually any speed and 8N1), or a PD library is your best bet. If you've not made contact with a PD library, then here's a selection: I've no knowledge of most of them, and a couple might not still be operating. But a £1 coin sent will probably elicit a catalogue or demo disc. Most can supply files like Creator, ChangeFSI and so on. If you haven't got a modern, then get in touch with one of these chaps: APDL, 96 Lanehouse Road, Thornaby, Cleveland TS17 8EA. Arcaynia, PO Box 1927, Sutton Coldfield, 874 3QZ.

ArcPD, 2798 Romford Road, Forest Gate, London E7 9H3.

Datafile PD, 22 Duxford Drive, Aldergrove, Co Antrim, Northern Ireland BT26.

Lings Software Services, Lings House, 26 Caxton Road, Wimbledon, London SW19 8SJ.

Mr Bee PD, 3 Willoughby Lane, Widmerpool, Notts, NG12 5PU. Skyfall PD, PO Box 2220, Birmingham B43 5RZ, STWPD, 12 Mornington Road, Radlett, Herts WD7 7BL.

#### MONO MONITORS

The Arc 400 series is designed for use with colour monitors and two types of mono screens. If you want to use a Takan Viking, it can be plugged straight in. But a 'normal' mono monitor like the common Philips 7502 is more problematic; I hate to think how many have been taken back to dealers because they appear not to work.

The answer is fitting two little links inside the machine, on LK5 and LK6 Near the back. There are a couple of little plastic links spare on PL2 that can safely be used. Once the links are fitted, close up the machine and plug the monitor into the Sync socket.

Using a mono monitor is cheapskating a little, as RISC OS in definitely intended to be a colour system. But it does work in mono, and I would recommend you set a mono machine up with \*Configure WimpMode 11. It looks a little better than the usual mode 12.

Ken Coumarin

### Atari ST Owners!

Put Power into your cartridge port

# Ultimate

The cartridge your ST has been waiting for!

- Opens up any ST program
- Fits easily into the cartridge port
- Powerful Tool for all Atari ST users

Whether you are a programmer, games player, or just curious about the workings of your Atari ST, the Ultimate Ripper gives you the power that you need.

### Just look at the features...

 Opens up any program • Read Memory • Search Memory • Print Memory . Disassemble . Disassemble to Disk . Edit Memory . Search For Graphics . Search for sprites . Edit screen configurations Set up colour palettes • Alter plane configurations • Load & Save Screen Displays • Run external TOS programs • Load TOS Programs • Load & Save graphic screens • Low Level Disk Editor • Disk Analyser • Examine formats • Format analyser • File Editor • Directory editor • Formatter • Break & Restart function • Search for infinite lives . Look for music . Play music . Load & save music . Search for soundtracker music . Search for Sound Samples . Programmers Calculator built in . Many more features . Updates available with new software . Full support for STE sound & Graphics

### The Ultimate Ripper

is available only from

POWER COMPUTING

### Ultimate Ripper..

Price includes VAT and delivery. All of our products carry a 1 year warranty

The Ultimate Ripper may be ordered by postal mail order or by telephone

We accept Access and Visa

### **POWER COMPUTING LTD**

44a Stanley Street, Bedford, MK41 7RW 0234 273000

(5 lines)

We accept credit orders by telephone on the above number or by fax on 0234 270133 We reserve the right to change prices and product lines without notice

The Ultimate Ripper is sold on the understanding that it is not used to contravene the 1988 Copyright Act.

\*\* Now Available - Full Colour Product Directory £1.49 with free utility disk! \*\*

DEALER ENQUIRIES WELCOME - PHONE OR FAX FOR QUANTITY PRICING

### THE WORLD'S FINEST DISKS! GENUINE KAO DISKS!

THE WORLD'S FINEST!

AVAILABLE IN BLACK, BLUE, YELLOW, FOG WHITE,

GREEN, RED AND ORANGE!

25	Genuine KAO 3.5	" DSDD disksfor only £13.99
20	Genuine KAO 3.5 <sup>t</sup>	DSDD disks for only \$22.00
100	Genuine KAO 3.5'	DSDD disks for only \$44 on
200	Genuine KAO 3.5"	DSDD disks for only \$70.00
500	Genuine KAO 3.5°	DSDD disks for only \$110 on
400	Genuine KAO 3.5"	DSDD disks for only £150 00
800	Genuine KAO 3.5"	DSDD disks for only \$200 on
2000	Genuine KAO 3.5"	DSDD disksfor only £679.99

Offers subject to availability

### SO HURRY

Is it worth risking it with cheap disks from manufacturers you've never even heard of (or ever will!) when you can buy the WORLD'S FINEST at these prices?!!

THESE DISKS ARE THE REAL THING! THESE ARE GENUINE 100% KAO, 100% CERTIFIED, 100% GUARANTEED FOR LIFE!

Post and packing included,
All disks are guaranteed for life with a 1 for 1 swap.
All disks come individually wrapped with labels.
Unconditional money back guarantee!
This does not affect your statutory rights.

Cheques/postal orders payable to

PIONEER MEDIA, COMMUNICATIONS HOUSE, 26 BRITON CRESCENT, SANDERSTEAD, SURREY, CR2 0JF.

STRICTLY MAIL ORDER, DISKS NOT KEPT AT THIS ADDRESS

Trade Enquiries welcome

### SWITCHBOARD

75 Kirkmuir Drive, Stewarton, Ayrshire, KA3 3HP Tel: (0560) 85296 Fax: Voice Request

### HEWLETT PACKARD PRINTERS / PLOTTERS

Deskjet 500 £349

3 year warranty

Paintjet £399

Colour Deskjet 1 year warranty

HP 7440A Color-Pro 8-pen Plotter £369

1 year warranty

Prices exclude VAT

ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

64

#### QUAKING

Strange, isn't it? The software industry seems to be at its strongest for a long time with most arcade conversions actually being faithful to the original and a wealth of new and innovative games constantly pouring onto the scene. So why is it that the past couple of months three of the UK's software houses have gone into receivership?

Activision had been a pillar of the software scene since... ooh... since I was a wee laddy, and both CRL and Hewson have contributed enormously to the success of the C64. What's more surprising is the fact that all of these companies were large and well established – lord only knows how terrified the smaller companies must be. With the recession and the increase in VAT things, it seems, can only get worse. Will there be any reputable software companies left in 18 months time? I'm sure Haydn would like your views on the subject.

### **CREATURES 2 EXCLUSIVE**

Mournful rumbling aside, this week's column is dominated by the ever so cute and cuddly Fuzzy Wuzzies, as we take a look what promises to be one of the year's better sequels, Creatures 2 (cue rapturous applause).

The storyline is still in the planning stages but it should go something like this:

Claudine, now have several little children after having declared their undying love for eachother at the end of Creatures. The evil demons which live on the other side of the island are back with a vengeance and are hell bent on wiping out Fuzzy Wuzzies once and for all. This time they capture Clive's children by posing as babysitters while Clyde and Claudine and off to a shindig (Fuzzy Wuzzies can never resist a good rave).

Since Clyde already knows his way around the island he has no reason to traverse the landscape again. Instead he heads straight for each new and cunning torture chamber to save his offspring from certain gory doom.

After each chamber Clyde enters a bonus phase in search of extra points, where he and a fellow Fuzzy attempt to save even more of their chums from a fate worse than deadlines.

### MORE TORTURE

The guys responsible for the game are John and Steve Rowlands (PKA Apex Computer Productions) the pair with other classics such as Scorpious, Cyberdyne Warrior, Retrograde and, of course, the original Creatures below their belts. All these games were well received, so needless to say Creatures 2 will be an overnight success.

The game was started a early February, just one month after the original was completed, and is due for release just after the CES show in September. The duo reckon that they will have a spectacular demo ready for the show.

Since the original game's torture scenes received so much praise, the Apex lads have decided the sequel

should consist entirely of such screens (squeamish people stay clear)...

"They were an instant crowd puller," boasts John, "We've dropped the scrolling sections because they weren't really appealing. Solid torture scenes should provide great entertainment."

#### INSPIRATION

Inspiration comes from all manner of places, the Penelope Pitstop cartoons in particular, as well as Apex's rather sick sense of humour. Unlike the original, extra weapons and enhancements will be collected during the actual torture screen and for once the guys have decided not to include a shop (shock horror).

Similar to Creatures certain weapons will be essential to your survival; others will just look very pretty.

Once a screen has been successfully completed there follows a frantically paced bonus stage loosely based on a prehistoric game called Clowns – anyone remember it? Here masses of points can be accumulated not to mention the odd extra life.

The graphic style of each torture screen (and its associated bonus screen) varies from level to level and fans of Creatures will no doubt spot a few familiar names on there (Lilly Lakes and Watery Falls, for instance). And, needless to say, there will be plenty of funky tunes to accompany the action. Steve is a truly prolific musician.

Also included a neat 'Get Ready' section, complete with dancing Fuzzies and a brilliant well done screen.

### ATTENTION TO DETAIL

The game is being created in reverse, in that the front end code (title screen, high scores, loading systems etc) has already been written, allowing the duo to concentrate on writing torture scenes right up to the completion date.

"We aim to spend up to two weeks on each torture screen," John told me, "with the second week being a tidying up period."

Apex runs a very efficient team with John slaving away at the code and Steve tackling the graphics, music and sound effects, and occasionally sleeping. At this rate there should be no problem in completing the planned 15 torture screens.

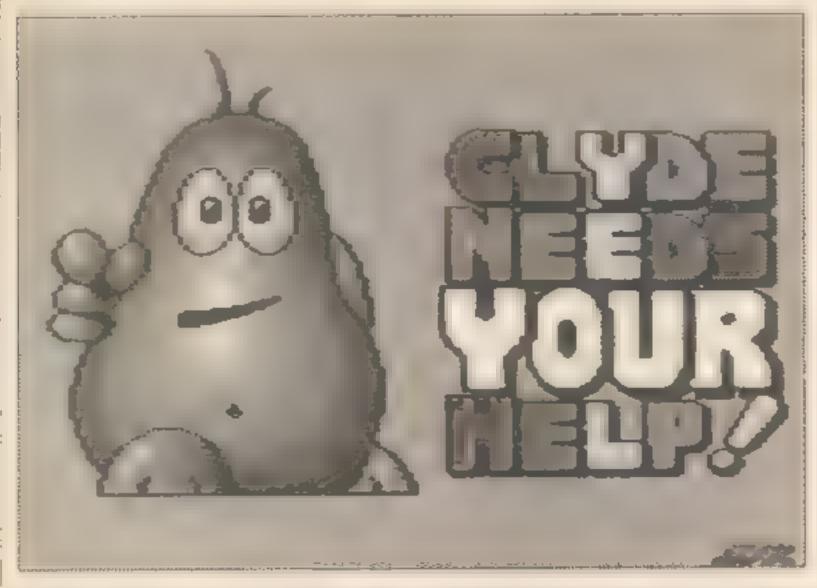
"Thalamus originally wanted seven screens, but we can confidently tackle 15 or so. It's really just a case of how much time we have," says John.

The design and presentation is where the team excels. Creatures was faultless in this respect with every idea being meticulously implemented. The graphics for the first two screen have already been finished, and only the code is required to bring them magically to life (but Apex will give nothing away at the moment).

### BONUS BELTER

I have seen the bonus game, though, and what a belter it is. The concept is easy to grasp; a demon at the top of the screen pushes helpless fuzzies off a

Sales Holline: (0733) 350242



· Creatures 2 is set to be a C64 smash this coming Christmas. As the torture scenes in the original were so popular the authors promise many more of them in the sequel.

ledge (boo, hiss). Clyde and a friend have an ACME trampoline between them and they must bounce the falling Fuzzies to safety. There a a quota of Fuzzies to be saved, with vast amounts of points awarded if you are successful. The graphics and presentation are first class as is the bouncy music. It was a demo I saw, so the in terms of playability it still needed a bit of a tweak, but in all it's great fun.

#### RECOMMENDED PD

Finally this week, I've been delving into the world of Public Domain software for the C64, and am shocked by the lack of it. It seems that the scene collapsed just as the 16-bit machines took a grip on the market, but slowly the demos are re-appearing. Thanks to Binary Zone PD I've had a chance to look at some of the

hottest productions around.

Brutal 3 is by far the best program (technically) ever to grace the C64; solid 3-D and wideframe vector graphics as fast as any Amiga, plus a breathtaking realtime zoom all of which move slickly in and out of the borders.

Other favourites include Bestiality, a jukebox containing the music from Shadow of the Beast ( along with sampled speech from The Mary Whitehouse Experience) and Wild At Heart, a stunning eight part demo with some fabulous sonics.

Treat your C64, and send an SAE to Binary Zone PD, 153 Farriers Corner, Westlands, Droitwich, Worcs, WR9 9EX. And if there are any other PD libraries for the C64 out there, don't waste this opportunity to get in touch.

**Andrew Roberts** 

### bectrum

#### SPECCY RULES, OK

We're constantly being told how humble the Speccy is by all these smug ST, Amiga and PC owning types so here's an interesting fact you should memorise for next time the boring fops assail you on the street and start babbling on about megabytes, blitters and the, ahem, 'lifelike graphics' on the batch of dodgy PD disks they've just received from Sweden.

The best selling game across all formats last year was the Spectrum version of Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles! So nyah, nyah, nyah, nyah and ya boo sucks is everyone who criticises our rubber keyed buddy. It's still the people's choice and deserves more support from software houses in the form of quality software of all types. They might not be able to charge us £30 and get away it like they can with the 16 bitties but this in clear proof that well written, good quality software (like the Turtles game) will always be bought in vast quantity by slavering hordes of Speccy owning punters.

The pretty reasonable price of Spectrum stuff seems to reduce piracy as well in my experience. If we could just have a bit more variation with the odd new art package and more original unlicensed games I'd be even happier.

But basically I'm happy ill report that it looks like the demise of the Spectrum has been greatly exaggerated.

#### UNIDOS

The Plus D disk drive/interface system is thought by many to be the best way of introducing your Spectrum to the wonders of a 3.5 inch disk drive. I don't own one myself but people who do keep telling me how good they are and I'll definitely be mentioning it to Santa come Christmas. I bring the subject up now because of a brightly glowing recommendation sent to me by Malcolm Perry for a new disk operating system written for the Plus D and it's predecessor the Disciple.

UNI-DOS from SD software, of whom, I must admit, I haven't heard before, is designed specifically for these systems and according to Malcom the "functions and facilities it offers make a world of difference."

With UNHDOS you have to replace the ROM in your Plus D/Disciple but Malcom assures me it's all very straight forward and definitely worth the trouble for the impressive benefits you gain. Firstly there's an improved screen dump feature that's an absolute boon for Desk Top Publishing (DTP) as you can select any section of the screen and print it

### Approvates Whittlesey, Peterborough, ALL PRICES INCLUDE VAT, POSTAGE & PACKIN Quick Shot Starfighter Remote Control Quick Shot Flightgrip. Quick Shot Maverick.... Quick Shot Python..... Seal 'N' Type Thru Keyboard cover ......£12.99 Monitor Plinth Joystick Splitter Lead..... Joystick ext Lead ..... Joy/Mouse ext Lead..... 4 Player Games Lead..... Mouse Pocket Vaksha Upgrade Mouse (for Amiga and ST).....£23.99 3.5 80 Cap Banx.....xne8 qbD 08 2.5 3.5 80 Cap Lockable Disk 8ox ..... 3.5 40 Cap Lockable Disk Box 50 3.5 Disk Labels 3.5 Bulk HD Disks 3.5 Bulk DS DD Disks..... OADIM TAAH

	ELECTRONICS LIMITED	Addison Road, Port Talbot SA12 6HZ TEL: 0639 885008 FAX: 0639 887170
1		
1	SAM COUPE computer	Citizen 180E printer£169.99
1	+ 1 drive £199.99	UHF leads TV to computer
1	SAM COUPE computer	(BBC/Spectrum)£1.99
H	+ 2 drives£275.99	Cassette leads (BBC/Spectrum)£1.99
ı	SAM disk drive£79.99	
ı	SAM 256K RAM expansion£39.95	(connects to monitor)£9.99
ı	SAM COMMS interface£29.95	
	SAM disk interface£29.95	cub monitor£9.99
	VOICE BOX allows SAM	SAM dual joystick adaptor
11001	speak£39.99	(connects 2 joysticks)£7.99
	SAM COUPE computer pack	SAM Midi cables£6.49
	(512K + drive)£234.99	3.5° DS/DD disks box of 10£5.99
	SAM advanced technical manual.£15.99	Plus D/BBC dual disk drive
*****	Citizen 120D printer parallel£140.99	connectors£14.99
1	Mannesman MTB parallel	Spectrum 48K power supplies£9.99
	printer£135.99	Spectrum 128K power supplies £14.99
ŀ	Parallel printer cable	A4 printer paper 2000 sheets£19.99
	Parallel printer cable SAM/BBC/+D type£7.99	
	Parallel printer cable Spectrum	For full price list of other products
I	+3 type£7.99	please ring.

PORT TALBOT WORKSHOPS, Unit 17

All prices include VAT - Postage Printers/Computers £5.00. Postage all other products £1.00

	SPECIAL FOR ALL FORMAT SHOW
-	Citizen Swift 9 colour printer£195.50
ı	3.5" disks£3.50 for 10
ı	Colour Dump utility for SAM COUPE£7.99  Disk boxes lockable
	40 disk size£4.50
_	80 disk size£6.50
	Also at show:

Blue Alpha's SAM sound sample and Voice Box interfaces for the SAM COUPE at special show prices

MGT DISK DRIVES AND PLUS " INTERFACES REPAIRED. 3 MONTHS GUARANTEE GIVEN ON REPAIRS. Please telephone before sending repairs anytime until 8pm

out in any size, upright or on its side and even in colour if your printer's up to it. File handling in also pretty advanced with "the multiple directory almost worth the money alone," says Malcom.

He goes on to enthuse that, "You can now open channels direct to disk and POINT to any place in the channel. Disk data can be read directly into a string variable (as can data from any channel). Any number or even a single byte can be read from or written III the disk without all the hassle of the old system of lifting sectors and resaving sectors on disk."

Other new commands included in UNI-DOS are PEEK@, to compliment the original POKE@, OPEN and CLOSE streams and channels and MOVE which replaces COPY in the standard Plus D/Disciple GDOS. That's as well as random access files, drive maps and other tasty sounding features. In fact, Malcom compares UNI-DOS to the acclaimed Master DOS for the SAM and this new operating system does seem a veritable boon for M Speccy/+D households, I'd give you an address for SD Software but Malcom didn't include one! Write in if you know where they can be found.

#### SPINDIZZY POKE

We're all Your Sinclair fans around here (aren't we?) and so an atmosphere of universal jubilation should welcome this poke for a game slapped on the cover of the April issue of Britain's best selling Speccy mag. It gives you unlimited time on the excellent Spindizzy and was

kindly supplied by Matthew Wilson of Brighton. Thanks Matthew, you're a true Spec-chum!

He also wanted to know if a SAM bought from a shop would be under guarantee by SAM Co. M which I can unofficially answer, almost definitely yes. Anyway, to get the poke working simply:

1)Type it in.

2)Save the program for posterity. 3) RUN it and start your Spindizzy tape from the beginning and don't don't stop it until the game has loaded. Infinite time and large scores will now be yours.

1 REM Spindizzy Hack 10 CLEAR 24831: LOAD

""SCREENS: LOAD "" CODE

20 FOR a=65309 TO 65321

21 READ V: POKE a, V

22 NEXT a

30 POKE 65141,154

40 POKE 65148,29

50 PORE 65149,255 60 RANDOMIZE USR 65118

100 DATA 62, 201, 50, 144

110 DATA 188, 62, 201, 50

120 DATA 17, 189, 195, 0

130 DATA 178

Contributions of a Speccy related nature are still as welcome as ever! Send everything and anything to Robin Alway, Spectrum Column, New Computer Express, 30 Monmouth Street, Bath

Robin Alway

#### AN ISLAND NATION?

After what seems like an eternity, The Secret of Monkey Island has arrived on the ST. The game, which has been written by Lucasfilms, is being distributed in this country by US Gold.

The style iii the game is very much me the same vein as other Lucasfitm. titles such as Indianna Jones and Loom, namely a graphical, point and click adventure. To complete Monkey Island, you have to take control of a character called Bobbrush Threepwood, turn him into a pirate, save your true love and defeat the evil pirate LeChuck.

An amusing introductory sequence brings home the point that this is no deadpan adventure full of goblins and willo-the-wisp type spectres. No. this is a true interactive movie, with more than its fair share of humour.

The game is split into three main parts. The first of these involves you becoming a pirate. Some particularly old and grog-wizzened pirate chiefs set you three tasks, to prove that you have what takes make it in the cut-throat world of piracy. You have to steal an idol, beat the sword-master and find the treasure of Melee island

The most amusing event in the first stage is beating the sword-master. To do this you have to acquire a sword and

then gain the experience necessary to take on the old-master. Thus sword fights aptenty take place, but not your common-or-garden sword fight. The idea of these battles is to out-insult your opponent. So if he says "You make me want to puke," you reply with "You make me feel like someone already has."

Nothing is what it seems on the island of Melee. The treasure is no trove of golden goodies, the pirates are cheeky sods who enjoy winding you up and even the dogs can hold a conversation with you!

Stage Two sees you setting off to the island to confront the evil pirate LeChuck with your massive crew of three. Here again things don't go very smoothly, the crew are far more intent on putting their feet up and cruising around the Caribbean than they are on confronting evil pirates.

Thus you'll have to do battle with the crew's egos, while at the same time trying to find Monkey Island. Believe me it's not easy. If you do manage to overcome the crew's "hostife" spirit you can attempt to rescue your sweet heart and return to Melee a hero and a true pirate in Stage Three.

Outstanding graphics and extremely tongue in cheek humour place this game light years ahead of any

### BILL'S GONE BANANAS!!!

### PC's AT CRAZY MONEY LOOK FOR YOURSELF

### NEW HARD DISKS

3º TYPE	Control	ler Size	Speed	Price
ST 124	MFM	20Mb	40ms	£130.00
ST 125-1	MFB	20Mb	28ms	£150.00
ST 138R-1	RLL	32Mb	28ms	£155.00
ST 151N-1	SCSI	49Mb	28ms	£179.00
ST 157A	IDE	44Mb	28ms	£129.00
ST 1102A	IDE	89Mb	19ms	£249.00
ST 1144A	IDE	124Mb	19ms	£295.00
ST 1201E	ESDI	177Mb	15ms	£575.00

286AT 40Mb hard disk 28Ms '0' wait state IMb RAM 1.44 or 1.2Mb floppies + mouse VGA colour as standard 102 keyboard FULL ONE YEAR RETURN TO BASE WARRANTY FOR ONLY £715.00 + VAT

386SX Spec as above.....only £945.00 386SX 106 Mb HDisk ......only £1195.00

ALL PRICES EXCLUSIVE OF VAT + DELIVERY

### **Seagate**

5 <sup>th</sup> TYPE	Controlle	r Size	Speed	Price
ST 225	MFM	21Mb	65ms	£120.00
ST 225R	RLL	21Mb	70ms	£120.00
ST 238R	RLL	32Mb	65ms	£140.00
ST 251-1	MFM	42Mb	28ms	£160.00
ST 277R-1	RLL	65Mb	28ms	£180.00
ST 2125N	SCSI	110Mb	18ms	£465.00
ST 2274A	IDE	240Mb	16ms	£795.00

### SPECIAL OFFER

**EMS Memory Boards 4Mb** Mb populated £149.00 Controller Cards XTAT from £22.00

### **VGA MONITORS**

800 x 600 from £195.00, 1024 x 768 from £205.00

### KEYBOARDS

Enhanced keyboards from £35.00 Full range of printers and consumables

Just lift the phone and ring Bill Russell on 0491 613047 Giltlink Ltd, enquiries by post to Scotts House, Cuxham Rd, Watlington, Oxon Ox9 5JW

29

other graphic adventure. The control method is unobtrusive and truly intuitive. Considerable time has been spent on little touches and gob-smacking graphics. Monkey Island from US Gold is a true joy. If should hit the shelves within the next months.

#### **EVENLODE OFFLOAD SOFTWARE**

lour

Things are rarely quiet at Evenlode Soundworks. As distributor of the Steinberg range of software, it always has something new in the pipeline for MIDI manipulating ST users. True to form a whole batch of new programs is now available from the company.

The most interesting of these, in definitely Avalon 2.0. This professional package is a sample processor, it enables you to either create sounds from scratch or to modify existing samples. The program incorporates a SCSI interface as well as facilities for full time correction.

Synthworks Wavestation in one of Steinberg's famous front end synth editors. It enables the frustrated musician to access the deepest recesses of his or her synth via it friendly ST program. Korg's Wavestation has just had the Synthwork's treatment and is easily on a par with the models. In a similar vein in ADS Soundworks, an editor for Dynachords sampler.

Two new hardware products aimed at the ST MIDI market have been released. The first of these is SMP 11, a rack mount SMPTE processor. This enables you to sync music to vision via SMPTE codes and is 25 per cent

cheaper than the SMP24 model. The other hardware device in the VLTC 1 rack mount video synchroniser which includes VITC read/write facilities.

#### AN ALL NEW SYSTEM SOLUTION

There's a new force in British ST software and hardware distribution, ready to battle with the big boys. System Solutions aims to address the professional side of Atari usage, namely ST, STE and TT. The company tells me that it has a portfolio of new and exclusive packages ready to retail. Users of MIDI and DTP programs will find that System Solution has some very nifty items in its catalogue.

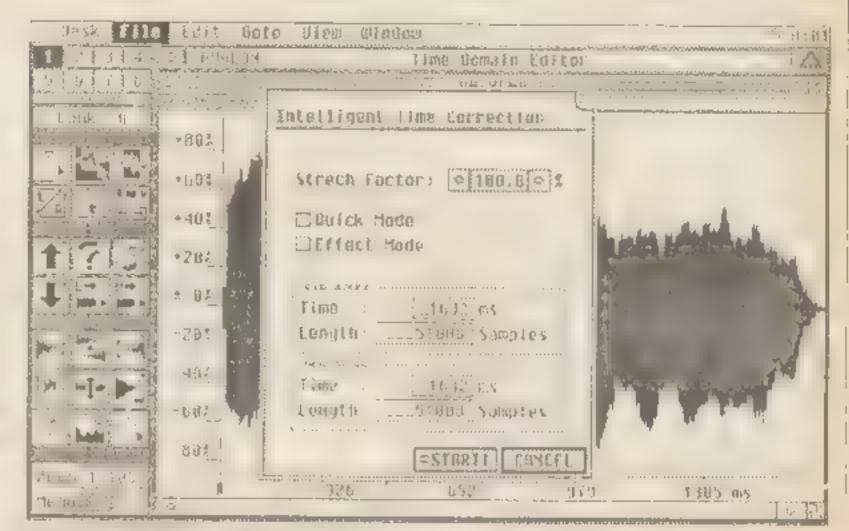
Codehead Software has appointed System Solutions as its British distributor. Maxifile 3.1, Hotwire 3.0, Codekeys and Poppit are four of the Codehead programs now available.

Maxifile is a file handling tool. It displays up to 48 files at time and enables you to erase, move, copy, name, show, printer, search, set archives and fastload programs, thereby making desktop largely redundant.

Codekeys is a macro program. It enables you is assign "hot keys" to a wide variety of functions. For example, you could set a macro to run a word processor, then load a text file and then find a particular spot in the text.

Lookit is an ASCII file view and binary file editor which is memory resident, while Poppit lets you to open desk accessories from within any program.

Hotwire is similar to Codekeys,



· With the Steinberg Avalon you can create new sounds or modify existing ones.

except that it runs programs. Menus can be created with each program having its own hot key. Accessories can be assigned in these hot keys and everything can be password protected, giving added ST security.

System Solutions will be selling the Ethernet network called Bionet 100, which lets you fill link STs up with PC's and Mac's. The network runs at 100 megabits per second, making it extremely fast; it also supports a wide range of file servers including Vax's 286, and 386 PC's, Unix and Atari ST and TT computers.

Calamus DTP users will be interested in the company's library of 90 fonts. These have been designed by the Canadian company Cherry Fonts and

come complete with a font editor to enable you to get text looking just the way you want it.

Titan Design's Reflex graphics card is being distributed by SS, as is Logitech's ScanMan Plus hand scanner. The German company Trade It has appointed SS as the British distributor of its professional Repro Studio, Repro Studio Plus, Repro Studio Professional, Avant Vector and Avant Vector Plot packages, while TKR has given distribution rights to SS for its ST Fax Modern hardware.

System Solutions lives at Atari Workshop Mail Order, Windsor Business Centre, Vansittart Estate, Windsor SL4 1SE. Telephone 0753 832212.

**Andy Hutchinson** 

### WE MUST BE MAD

Due to massive bulk buying and low cost advertising we can offer you high quality European manufactured disks at these extremely low prices

3.5 DISKS 31 DINC VAT

250 ± @29p each, 500 ± @ 28p each, 1000 ± @ 27p each
ALL DISKS CERTIFIED 100% ERROR FREE

SONY 3.5 DSHD 3.5 DSHD 5.25 DSHD 19 DSDD BULK

100 Capacity Disc Box 3.75 50 Capacity Disk Box 1.56 Mouse Pockets 1.50 Mouse Mat 1.76 Printer Stand 3.75 Amiga Dust Cove 2.56 Posso Box 15.00 Atari Dust Cover 2.50 Amiga 512K RAM Expansion with clock 12.00

THIS MONTHS 200 3.5" DSDD DISKS 64.95
SPECIAL OFFER + 2 x 100 CAP BOXES

Please add £2.85 p&p/next day £7.50. Cheques/POs to PLC COMPUTER SUPPLIES (De. NCE) TELESALES HOTLINE 11 Meakin Avenue, Clayton 0782 212970

Newcastle, Staffs ST5 4EY.

Amiga/Atari External Drive



### Supra Modems

### Modems from £55

Supra 2400 (V22bis) £125 Supra Plus (V22bis + MNP5 + V42bis) 9600 baud £220

Supra MNP (V22bis + MNP5) 4800 baud £175

Used modems at bargain prices.

Ideal for Ataris, Amigas & PCs

Supra modems are guaranteed for four years and are auto-dial, auto-answer, and fully Hayes compatible.

Supra Approved Distributor

Open till 8pm 081-566-3639

DO DOV 2426

SUPPLY SOLUTIONS, PO BOX 2136, LONDON, W13 8QJ

# WHOLE WIRED WORLD

Another week, another plane ticket. Steve Gold wanders the globe in search of the hottest computer news. Among other things this week: new products for the ST and Amiga.

### APPLE UNVEILS HE EMULATOR FOR MAC LC SERIES

### ASDG UPDATES ART DEPARTMENT PROFESSIONAL

ASDG has released a number ma a new and updated packages for the Amiga.

Spearheading the new product range is a major update of the company's Art Department package. The upgrade software is called Art Department Professional.

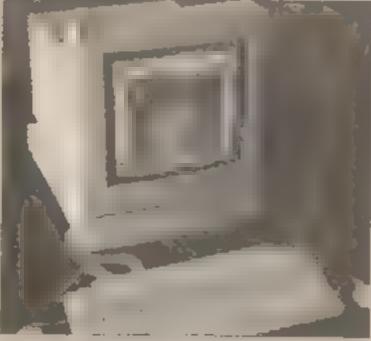
A key feature of the new package is that it now supports a large number of colour peripherals, including the Impulse Firecracker 24 and PP&S Framegrabber systems. Other features include support for new file formats and image processing systems.

For information on Art Department Professional contact: Gina Cerniglia E ASDG Inc, 925 Stewart Street, Madison, WI 53713, US.Tel: 0101-608-273-6585.

### DOUBLE CLICK UNVEILS DC SHOWER

Double Click software, the developers of DC Showit, the shareware package, for the Atari ST, has revamped the software for the commercial marketplace and called it DC Shower.

The new software replaces the Gem desktop Show File function with up to seven DC Shower modules. These are said to allow the user to view text files, binary files, 17 different picture formats. It even provides the ability to extract ARC, LZH, ZIP and ZOO archives, or so the company claims.



• The Mac LC: new Apple II emulator is the equivalent to running BBC Master software.

Apple US has begun shipping an Apple
He machine on a card designed to fit into
the Mac LC computer. The \$199 card,
which was announced in the US when
the trio of budget Macs were unveiled
last October, is pitched at the
educational market in the US, where the
Apple H series is what the BBC Model B
is 16 education this side of the Atlantic.

Apple claims that, because the board contains a 66C02 microprocessor, it is virtually an Apple lie "computer on a card". The card will run most existing

Apple de programs faster and with better resolution than a regular lie.

The card comes with 128K of onboard RAM - which can be allied to up to 1Mb of the Mac LC's main memory - and features a floppy disk controller and connector ports, so allowing onward connection to lie peripherals such as drives and joysticks. The card slips into the processor direct slot (PDS) on the Mac LC's motherboard. Contact: Apple Computer, 20526 Mariani Ave, Cupertino, CA 95014, US. Tel: 0101-408-996-1010

The package can be used as standalone module using the UIS 3.3 facility on the Gem desktop - you drag a liftle to the P button and click on the show

The DC Shower software is all set to start shipping from the end of April onwards. It will retail for the price of \$29.95. As a special deal to people who already own the orginal, the upgrade being offered one third off by direct mail, provided you send a disk with a copy of the shareware DC Shower package on it, before the beginning of June.

button.

For more information you can contact the company at the following address: Double Click Software, PO Box 741206, Houston, TX 77274, United States, Tel: 0101-713-977-6520 BBS: 0101-713-944-0108.

Email: Compuserve 75300,577 Usenet: uace0@menudo.uh.edu.

### ONLINE HELP FOR CALAMUS USERS

Users of the much vaunted Calamus dektop publishing software for the Atari ST find that, while the software in excellent in the quality of end-result it is able in produce, actually getting to that point is sometimes mind-bending because many of its features are quite complex.

Now Spar Systems of New York has released a \$34.95 package called Calassistant that operates as an 'on-line assistant' users if the package.

According Spar, the package allows Calamus users to file their manuals away, as help is just a mouse click away, the company claims.

In use, the package operates as a TSR, requiring just 90K of RAM to run in over the Calamus software. The software uses text, icons and pictures to illustrate, explain and give tips for com-

mands and functions step by step. Since the Calamus interface is very icon oriented, the 'help messages' function under the 'extras' menu is used to navigate the user online.

Further details from: Spar Systems, 381 Autumn Avenue, 381 Autumn Avenue, Brooklyn, New York NY 11208, United States.

Tel: 0101-718-235-3169.

### INTERACTIVE CD MAGAZINE LAUNCHED

A new publisher called Verbum has announced a CD-based magazine called Verbum Interactive 1.0.

The first issue of the quarterly magazine - which is available now - consists of two disks plus driver software the the Apple Mac. MS-DOS driver software will available later in the year, company, officials have said.

almost any CD-ROM drive driver software can access the new magazine disks. Verburn is including the driver software with its \$49.95 per issue magazine to ensure that novice users of CD-ROM drives can read the disks.

The first issue of Verbum Interactive 1.0 features a showcase of animation and interactive multimedia works, interactive columns and feature stories, with music from popular musicians Todd Rundgren (A wizard, a true star! — Ed) and Graham Nash, and several other well-known electronic music composers.

Plans call for the CD-based magazine to be issued on quarterly basis. A full subscription service a expected to later this year, at which time specific software drivers for hardware systems other than the Mac will be launched.

For further information on the magazine contact publisher Verbum on 0101-619-233-9977.





package of heldlar of angelor computers, according to the company, the 189-95 package realistic casino day and another mixed play modes which include programmable strategies

that as well assentertaining users at the Sustan package will actually reachibiayers now to win at Blackjack make real worth a chance lociaw package costol the package perhaps?

in use the package supports between one and seven players playing within it in includecks officerus, within ice touches such as being able to specify the ideal dealing depth for when resputie, and an adjustable playing speed setting.

This the company claims fallows you to see why your operation.

Further details Wusicode Software 3575 Baltimore Drive.
Suite 105-127 La Mesa CA 31942, URB Tel: 0101-619-469-7194



AMIGA 500 COMPUTER BASE PACK

Ì	Amiga A500 Base Package £ 307.49
Ì	A500 as above, with our 512K
Ì	RAM/Clock Upgrade fitted£ 337.49
l	A500 Pack pitra External 31/1" Orive £ 349.99
	A500 Pack plus External 31/,* Drive and
	512K RAM/Clock Upgrade fitted £ 387.49
	N.B. Does not include extra games software

Philips CM8833 Mk.II. inc.cable	€ 249 00
ViDI-Amiga video Digitiser package	€ 95.00
VIDI-Chrome-Amiga colour splitter s/ware	€16.95
VIDI-RGB colour input oplitter for VIDI	€ 64.95
MiniGEN Genlock Adapter	€ 95 00
CBM A590 20Mb Hard Disk	£279 00

better

to up

and

into

p. Since

con ori-

function

to navi-

ystems.

Autumn

11208.

called

y mag-

onsists

he the

tre will

mpany

i, that

r soft-

azine

ir soft-

azine

-ROM

active

nation

inter-

, with

Todd

- Ea)

other

ers.

laga-

is. A

d III

soft-

other

aga-

Buy an Amiga Feature Pack From Evesham Micros AND YOU ALSO GET ....

THESE FABULOUS GAMES:

Trackeult Manager '90 Subbuteo Block Alenche Lost'N Maza **Battle Squadron** Jaws Treesure Trep

C8M A590 Hard Disk 40Mb Version

CBM A590 Hard Disk, 100Mb Version

A500 Replacement Power Supply Unit

A590 512K RAM Upgrade

A590 1MB RAM Upgrade

A590 2MB RAM Upgrade

Tenk Battle Nigel Mansell PLUS! A wordprocessor and aprendsheet N.B. Not supplied with A500 'Base Pack' offi

واسفالا المساواة فالمساواة فالمساواة فالمساواة المساواة والمساواة والمساواة والمساواة والمساواة والمساواة والم	
CLASS OF THE 90's Package£ 5	49.00
Class of the 90's plus 31/1" Ext.Drive £ 6	00.00
Amiga 1500 STARTER PACKAGE £ 9	

AMIGA 500 1MB SCREEN GEMS PACK

**NOW INCLUDES** 1MB RAM! ONLY £369.99

Screen Gems Pack plus 31/2" External Drive  ONLY £419.99	
£479 00 Kraft Trackerball (ST/Amiga/64) . £ 44 95 £ 669 00 Amiga Virus Protector £ 9 95 £ 31 95 Siereo Sound Sampler inc. software . £ 29 95 £ 59 95 MIDI Interlace	

£179 00

€ 29.95



ONLY £39.95 INCLUDING VAT AND DELIVERY

### 31/2" EXTERNAL FLOPPY DRIVES

Compatible with the ST or AMIGA

### **MATARI**

'KICK OFF' WITH THIS DEAL FROM Evesham Micros!

**EVESHAM MICROS PRICE PROMISE - WE WILL BEAT ANY GENUINE ATARI ST PACKAGE** OFFER ON A LIKE-FOR-LIKE BASIS

### FREE WITH EVERY STE/STFM PACKAGE:

£ 99 95 Golden Image Handy Scanner Package

Diet Riot

Discman

£ 39 95 Kickstart 1 3 Upgrade

'Kick Off 2' (RRP: £19.99) 'Tracksuit Manager' (RRP: £19.99) 'Subbuteo' (RRP: £24.99) Quickshot 3 Turbo Joystick (RRP: £9.99)

ALL DUR ST prices include mouse, user guide, etc. PLUS 5 Double Sided disks full of a pecially selected Public Domain software including paint program/two wordprocessors/ games/graphics a sound demos, desk accessories and utilities:

TOTAL RRP OF EXTRAS: OVER £74.00!

520 STFM "DISCOVERY-PACK

Pack includes 520STFM computer, plus STOS Games Creator ) Outrup / Carrier Command (1) Bomb Jack (1) Space Harrier . Neochrome (\*) FirST BASIC (\*) Atari ST Tour Discovering your Atari ST Book

ONLY £299.99 WITH 1MB RAM FITTED

1040 STE FAMILY CURRICULUM PACK

SM124 monochrome hi-res monitor

Joystick Accessibility Adapter for STs.

Philips CM8833 Mk II, inc cable

Package consists of a 1040 STE with a collection of both educational & productivity software, including

Educational Software modules, split into three age categories, from Early School to GCSE revision. Productivity Software featuring Wordprocessor

Database and Spreadsheet (RRP over £100) Plus! Hyper Paint, Music Maker and FirST 8ASIC ONLY £439.99 WITH 2MB RAM FITTED ONLY £519.99 WITH 4MB RAM FITTED

£ 109 00 Reference 40Mb SCSI Hard Disk inc PSU , £ 399 00 Reference 100Mb SCSI Hard Disk inc PSU , £ 599 00 Golden image Handy Scanner Package. ... £179.00

\$ 89 00 VIDI-RGB colour input splitter for VIDI € 59 00 £ 4.95

### -AMIGA 500 512K RAM/CLOCK UPGRADE

Direct replacement for the A501 Expansion • Convenient On/Off RAM Switch Auto-recharging battery-backed Real-Time Clock • Compact unit size • Ultra-neat design

ONLY £32.95

**Including VAT and Delivery** 

Available without clock for only £27.95

A500 1.5MB RAM EXPANSION (requires Kickstart 1.3)... ONLY £89.95

### LYNX Portable Games Console

INCLUDES POWER SUPPLY & GAMECARD OF YOUR CHOICE! Only £99.95

•				de La Line	VALLE	01 100	LE MILLY	71GE:
ı	Electro Cop	£19.95	Rygar Was	rrior	£19.95	Gales-Zer	docon	£19.9
ı	Slime World	£19 95	Zafor Merc	cenary	£19.95	Chips Cha	llenge	£19 9
	Klaxx	£19.95	Ms Pacma	Μ.	£19 95	Shanohai .		£19.9
	Hoadblasters .	E19 95	Xenophob	0	£19 95	Rampage		£22.9
	Paparboy	£19 95	Blue Light	ning	£19.95	Gauntlet 3		€22.9
ı	Cigarette Lighte	er Adapto	ж £ 9,99	Lyn	r Pope	h	£	9.99
ı	Sun Visor / Pro	lector	£ 5.99	Lyn	ix Kit Ca		£	14.95
h					_			

### ST SIMMS RAM EXPANSION SYSTEM

Fits all Atari STF, STFM or MEGA series machines

✓ Uses SIMMS RAM Modules for Effortless Upgradeability

✓ Probably the neatest ST RAM Upgrade available !

RAM Upgrade (unpopulated) £ 59.95
RAM Upgrade With 512K RAM Installed -
upgrades a 520 to a total of 1Mb RAM £ 89,95
RAM Upgrade With 2Mb RAM Installed -
upgrades a 520/1040/Mega1 to 2/2.5Mb £ 174.95
RAM Upgrade With 4Mb RAM Installed -
upgredes a 520/1040/Mega ST to 4Mb £ 284.95

N.S. Due to the large variance in design of the Atan ST, there is a small. minority of boards in existence which may require a little soldering

### PLUG-IN SOLDERLESS ST RAM UPGRADES

Two versions allow upgrade to 1Mb, or 2 / 2 5Mb ● Simple, fast and effective RAM upgrade path • Suits any 520 or 1040 IIII model (not STE machines) • Requires no soldering or technical know-how

512K VERSION: UPGRADES ANY 520 ST TO 1MB RAM 2MB VERSION: UPGRADES ANY 520 or 1040 ST TO 2/2.5MB RAM

£69.95

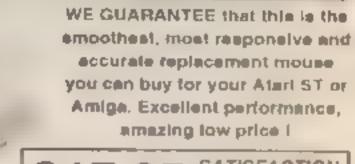
£159.95

Very quiet ● Slimline design ● Cooling Vents ● Sleek, high quality metal casing ● Suits any Amiga or Atari ST ● Full 1Mb Unformatted Capacity @ Quality Sony / Citizen Drive Mechanism Convenient On / Off switch on rear of drive ● Long reach. connection cable for location either side of computer

AMIGA £54.95 VERSION

PERSION £59.95

### TRUEMOUSE (STOR AMIGA)



SATISFACTION GUARANTEED

### PHILIPS 15" TV/MONITOR



With its dedicated monitor input, this model combines the advantages of a high quality medium resolution colour monitor with the convenience of remote control Teletext TV - at an excellent low price I

Including VAT. delivery & cable

Philips CM8833 Mk.II including ST or Amiga cable .. \$ 249.00

### ALL PRINTERS INCLUDE CABLE & 1 YEAR ON-SITE WARRANTY

Star LC10 Mk.II best-selling 9-Pin, SPECIAL PRICE. Star LC 200 9-Pin Colour, 4 tonis, 180/45cps ...... £4209.00 Star LC 24-10 24-Pin multifont, 180/60cps . ... Star LC 24-200 24-Pin multifont, 200/67cps **249.00** Star XB24-10 24-Pin Including COLOUR UPGRADE ■ 459.00 Olivetti DM100S 9-Pin, includes 1 Year on-site maint £ 115.00

### olivetti DM124C 24-pin Professional COLOUR printer

Professional Quality 24-Pin Colour Printing - At an affordable price t

Offering advenced COLOUR output with the superior quality of Olivetti 24-pin. printing the DM124C represents excellent value! Consistent high quality is assured every time Guaranteed Peace Of Mind, with 12 Months On-Site Warranty cover ! 200 cps draft, 50 cps LQuality • 7 Colour output; Graphics resolution 360 x 180dpl • Complete with cable, Colour Ribbon and 12 MONTHS ON-SITE WARRANTY Olivetti DM124C Normal RRP: II 389.95 inc.VAT

SPECIAL OFFER! £269.00

Unit 9 St. Richards Road 5 Glisson Road

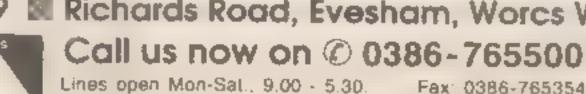
Evesham Worcs WR11 6XJ **T** 0223 - 323898 TT 0386 - 765180 lax . 0223 - 322883 lax: 0386 - 765354 Open Mon - Sal, 9,00 - 5,30 Open Mon - Sat, 9,00 - 5,30 IBM Dealer . Corporate Specialist

1762 Pershore Road Cotteridge Birmingham \$30 38H **77** 021 - 458 4564

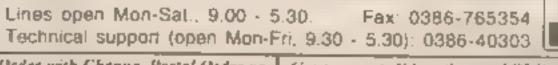
**ALL PRICES INCLUDE VAT @ 17.5% AND DELIVERY** 

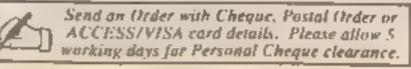
Same day despatch whenever possible. Express Courier Delivery £5.00 extra.

-MAIL ORDER DEPARTMENT-



Unit 9 🔣 Richards Road, Evesham, Worcs WR116XJ





Government, Education and PLC orders welcome All products covered by 12 Months Warranty All goods subject to availability, E. & O.E.

VISA

🚃 RETAIL SHOWROOMS 🚃

Cambridge C81 2HA

fax: 021-433 3825 Open Mon - Sat, 9.00 - 5.30



# CIRCUITICITY

If you've built an electronic kit and it won't work you could be in trouble.

Luith Pomfret tries out a service that turns tragedy into triumph

ost of the simpler projects we have covered in Circuit City are easy to troubleshoot if they won't work. If there are only a couple of dozen components, the checks for dry joints, bad connections and bits fitted incorrectly are quite simple. If it is a mega-project like last week's NICAM stereo decoder for the TV though, there are a lot of closely packed parts and even with meters, scopes and plenty of midnight oil, it can be a task that won't suit the faint hearted.

Electronic hobbyist's friend – Maplin – which makes the NiCAM kit, offers a full diagnostic and repair service to anyone who is having problems with a Maplin kit. For a very reasonable fee they'll take your kit, find out what you've done wrong, remedy it and return it to you with a list of your cock-ups.

If the kit is beyond salvation, they won't be able to resurrect it, but in most cases, it is a few simple mistakes that can make an otherwise perfect project fail. The ideal situation, though, is to avoid needing to send your pet project off for repair. Common sense, care and a few rules to follow when constructing your to can help you avoid needing the service.

Before you embark on any project there are a few simple rules to follow. These will help yo ensure that your project is well made and less likely to need troubleshooting. Maplin charges vary depending on the amount of work to do, so care in construction can save you money

### **PRECAUTIONS**

Some components are sensitive about which way you place them in a circuit and can be damaged if placed in the wrong way round. Other components such as diodes are designed inhibit the flow of current in one direction while allowing it to go the other way. Putting a diode in backwards has the potential for at least stopping anything happening, and at worst, allowing delicate components to be damaged.

Resistors inhibit the flow of current through a circuit and if the wrong values are used, too little or too much can get through. If too little power gets through, the circuit may fail. If too much gets through, components that are sensitive may be damaged.

The values of resistors shown in a circuit should a rigidly adhered to. If you can't get a resistor of the value shown in the circuit, it may be possible to make up the necessary resistance using more than one resistor. If this isn't possible and you have a choice of a resistor with a smaller and a larger value than the one specified, the one with the higher value will have more resistance and be a safer bet. This may not work, but nor will it harm the machine.

### THE SERVICE

When we built the Maptin NICAM stereo decoder, a shortage of time and a fast soldering iron proved that in Circuit City projects, more haste means less speed. The finished unit looked pretty enough and we were able to photograph it, respendent in its glory but when we plugged it in, it gave neither a picture or a sound.

Back to the drawing board (or at least the circuit diagram). After a couple of hours pulling out hair, teeth and other bodily parts not firmly attached, we decided to cheat. Perhaps cheat is not the right word. After all, we had promised a hands-on test of the Maplin fix-it-and-fettle-it service. A phone call to Maplin confirmed that it would be glad to have one of service staff run over the completed kit, fix whatever was necessary and provide us with a service report.

Most important to see was another approaching deadline and Maplin promised to turn it round and send it back within seven days. While Maplin cannot promise this speed of service every time, it always tries to repair and return people's projects promptly.

Seven days passed before it was back on the Circuit City Testbench. It was carefully wrapped, thus protected from the vagaries of the Post Office, British Railways and the elements. In the box was a copy the letter that we sent, a compliment slip and most important copy of the engineer's report appended the invoice.

The engineers report was a clear and concise tabu-

### MAPLIN'S ENGINEER REPORT

#### TUNER

- L8 coil in L7 position and vice-versa, C17 and C21 fitted with wrong type. Aerial lead intermittent.

#### DECODER

- C2 broken. C82,C88 fitted with wrong type. C22 fitted with 22pf instead of 47uf replaced suspect TR2

Cleaned and tuned all boards.

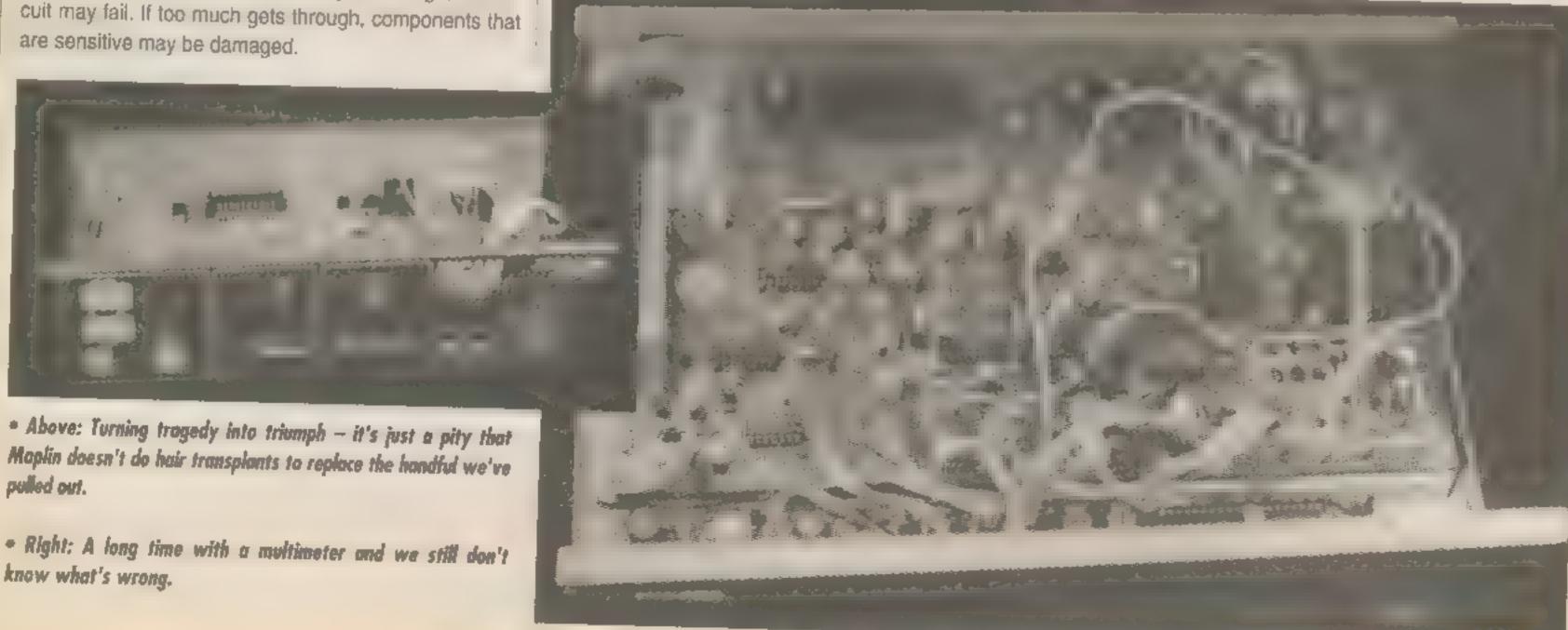
lated listing of what was wrong, why it was wrong and how it was remedied (see panel above).

This concise report clearly showed us where we'd gone wrong and made the analysis in the mistakes that we'd made simple

As well as meaning that the money spent on a kit isn't wasted, the diagnostic and repair service meant we would be better prepared for future projects and would already have an indication of the kind of mistakes that we're likely to make.

The report/involce has sections for components used and time taken and in this instance, a couple of hours (at a very reasonable £12.50 per hour) put a time charge of £25 on the job. This is extremely good value for diagnostic fault finding and repair and a chat to Maplin confirmed that it was indicative of the sort of repair needed to this kind of project.

Normally, Maplin would send out the invoice for service and the engineers report and return the working kit to you on receipt of the remittance. We spoke to other hobbyists who had used the service and agreed that it is a good service that solves problems and in doing so, gives you the information to learn from your mistakes. This helps your skill for future projects. In short, good value and an excellent service.



TWIN 5 1/4" DISK DRIVESA nicely cased self contained unit with its own power supply. Product of ■ famous Jap. maker this is IBM compatible 360K twin double sided. Brand new with data £59.00 plus £3 delivery.

by the famous Japanese EPSON Co. All these models in stock with makers data: SMD 240H, SMD 280H, SMD 240L, SMD 180H. Also 5 ½4" Models SD540 & SD580L, all brand new and will work with most computers and offered at £39.50 each + £3 delivery.

3 1/2" DOUBLE SIDE NECdisk drives still available but not many left, will work with the Atari ST etc. £59.50 + £3 delivery.

AMSTRAD 3 1/2" DOUBLE SIDED DISK DRIVEIBM compatible, with case Ref FD9 £45.00 + £3.00 P&P

SUPER MULTITESTEREX British Telecom, as new tested and guaranteed. Original cost probably over £50. Yours for only £7.50. Leather case for this £3.00 + £3.00 Post.

AMSTRAD 3" DISK DRIVE very nicely contained unit in case and with power supply, 34 way pin connector on the back. Ref no. FD1, price £49.50 + £3.00 P&P.

AMSTRAD AC ADAPTOR. For use with the PPC 640S/PPC640D/ PPC512S/PPC512D. 240v, 180mA, DC output, 13v 1.9amps. Price £5.00 + £3.00 P&P.

### M & II Electrical

12 Boundary Rd Hove, Sussex BN3 4ER Tel: 0273 430380 Fax 0273 410142 Telephone orders welcome

### Byte Syze

### Byte Syze - Nybble The Prices On Those Hard To Find

Ami	ga A500 Basic Pack£319.00	1500 Pack No Monitor	£675.00
Ami	ga A500 1Mb Screen Gems Pack£389.95	1500 Pack + 1084D Monitor	£895.00
	To The Arruga Video£9.99		
	Interface 1 in, 2 out, 2 Thru£25.50		
Curr	ana CAX354 3.5" DSDD Switch/Port£69.95	1Mb Ram For A590	£47.50
	modore C64GS + Game + Joysticks£94.50		
	Lynx (no game/PSU/Lead)£75,00		
	Lynx (PSU/Leads - No Game)£95.00		
	Lynx (game + PSU + Leads)£122.00	_	
Lyax	Games from	Megadrive Games from	£29.00
	AMICA /ATABI	CEMERAL	
I I tou	AMIGA/ATARI	GENERAL	00.00
	se/Joystick Switches - Auto		
	se/Joystick Switches - Manua)£15 50 se/Joystick Extension Leads - Pair£3.99		
	ayer Adaptor		
7 / 11	# [ Tell     Tell		
1.377	_		
	Disk Drives 1Mb£67 95	Midi Leads 3M	£2.50
Cont	Disk Drives 1Mb £67 95 triver Replacement Mice + Mat £21.95	Midi Leads 3M	£2,50 from £3,95
Cont Nak	Disk Drives 1Mb £67 95 triver Replacement Mice + Mat £21.95 sha Mouse £24.95	Mid: Leads 3M	£2,50 from £3,95 £68.99
Cont Nake Mare	Disk Drives 1Mb       £67 95         triver Replacement Mice + Mat       £21.95         sha Mouse       £24.95         coni TrackBall       £42.95	Mid: Leads 3M  Dust Covers  Philips TV Tuner For Monitor  Atari Mono/Col Monitor Switch	£2,50 from £3,95 £68,99 £19,99
Cont Nake Marr & Wa	Disk Drives 1Mb       £67 95         Briver Replacement Mice + Mat       £21 95         Sha Mouse       £24 95         Booni TrackBall       £42.95         Batt Stereo Amp + Speakers       £39.99	Midi Leads 3M	£2,50 from £3,95 £68,99 £19,99
Cont Nake Marr & Wa	Disk Drives 1Mb       £67 95         triver Replacement Mice + Mat       £21.95         sha Mouse       £24.95         coni TrackBall       £42.95	Midi Leads 3M	£2,50 from £3,95 £68,99 £19,99
Cont Nake Mare II Wa Pren	Disk Drives 1Mb       £67 95         Briver Replacement Mice + Mat       £21 95         Sha Mouse       £24 95         Booni TrackBall       £42.95         Batt Stereo Amp + Speakers       £39.99	Midi Leads 3M  Dust Covers  Philips TV Tuner For Monitor  Atari Mono/Col Monitor Switch  Konix Speedking Joystick A/F  Konix Navigator Joystick A/F	£2,50 from £3,95 £68,99 £19,99 £9,99

### Many More Items for Acorn, Amstrad, Atari, Commodore and Spectrum Computers

P & P £1.00 for leads/covers/switches/software, £2.50 on disks/drives/hardware. Including VAT at 17.5%. Courier available for £7.95

Cheque (Card no on reverse) or Postal Order with order, payable to:-

BYTE SYZE, 23 Porter Close, Rainhill, Merseyside, 135 6PY Ansaphone 051 426 0138; Enquiries 1700 to 1900. Phone or SAE for FULL list.

### WEGADRIVE

Ov Medaguing + Will Beast	
+ game	£149.95
JPN Megadrive Pal + game	£129.95
JPN Game Adaptor free	
headphones	€14.00
Arcade Power Stick	1 45 CF
Joy Pad	5.14 CC.
SG Jetfighter .	1,1-2-44
Scart Lead	)   4 m,
Stereo Lead	1107
<u> </u>	

#### Celtics vs Lakers Darius II Devil Hunter Elemental Master Fantasy Soldier III X 35 (1) E 45 (0) Gaiares 1 4/1 () () James Pond 1 38 06 J.M. Amierican Footbuill 1,307 (0). Are Montana Egotball £ 35 (1.1) Marginal Hall £ 24 (00) Midnight Resistance HA TONE GOT £ 300 : 100

SPECIAL OFF	
Battle Squadron	£Z8.00
Curse	£16.00
Dangerous Seed	E24 ()
(D) 8hv	\$ 19 CO
FOWAT	\$19.66
Hand Drivin .	1.200
Heavy Unit	\$29 00
Hell Fire	£19 (0)
ECIX	£23 (4)
Mickey Mouse	£24 (10)
1 stricter	8,29 (I)
White Rush	\$16.00

direction distribution	on it to all the
SPORTS AND	SIMS
Super Voiley Ball	£33.00
Italia 90.	1.33 00
Rimaside Angels	£ 3.3 (00)
Super League Baseball	£33 00 i
Super Monage GP	£33 00
5 year Powl Basketball	F3310

### NINTENDO

Ninterkia Action Set	£94 ()(.
New Advantage	£37 mb
Nes idas Turbo	126 30
Python 2 Joystick	64-511
Cart Cleaning Et	60.00
Bayon Billy .	£ 37 181
Black Manta.	£35 00
Double Dragon	£ 37 (iii)
Double Dragon II	\$37.00
Meg. Man II	1,3A
//imperticy	£ 38 00
- Contract	£37 60
in bateator	£37 cm
Wake Sattle Roll	£ 37 (c)
Solar Jerman	£38 00
Stealth ATF	F 37 (20)
Juper Mario II	£38 (%)
Super Off Road	€37 00
World Wrestling	£37.00
CALL FOR ALL SEC	OND
HAND SWAPS AND G	AMED

FAMILLON	VÍ
Famicom + 2 Joy Pads +	2
Francisco	£299 00
(Bomb Buzal	£27 00
F Zero .	\$40.00
Final Eight	£44 00
intendes y life	£40 00
Pilot Wrags	. £42 00
. Togacitus .	£47.00
(B.G.Run	£44 (f)
Luper Mario World	.£42.00
race to One Golf	640 00

PC ENGINE
hand held
£245
Including Game

All prices are correct at time of print and may be subject to change without prior notice.

Post and Packaging £1 per order and £5 per console.

Trade enquires contact Pete

### GAMESOY

Cameboy + game inc PNP	165	(31)
: Gamelight	19	99
Game Pack Carry Case	187	49
Hard Carry Case	19	99
Compact Carry Case	£23	95
Balloon Kid	1,19	00
Bases Loaded	£24	00
Buria Fighter	8.24	(20)
Built Bunny .	224	00
Chable Oregon	£19	υŌ
Tragon Man .	£24	00
Gnostbusters II	£24	(10
in Your Face	£24	(3)
Styles	[24	(00)
teperboy .	E24	00
GA Frontbell	824	OU.
Sevenge of Gator .	219	OO.
Schosop	229	00
Sorderman .	219	00
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles		
Wrestling	£24	
17723119	The State of the	44

exchange used cartridges. Many more tems for other consoles and computers in stock please phone for more details and ask for ADAM or PETE or call in to the shop

### LY MX Console + power alifornia games ...



### Computer Emporium

37 Pinfold Gate, Loughborough ... Leics, LE11 15G

TEL (0509) 211799 FAX (0509) 881600





ALL AMIGA PACKS INCLUDE NEXT DAY DELIVERY AND VAT ADD ET FOR ALL OTHER ORDERS FOR P&P LATEST GAMES AVAILABLE AT 30% OFF RRP

### WONITORS

Philips 8833 MKII	£249
Commodore 10845	£259
Commodore 1084S	

Both include cable

13121K2				
3.	5" DSD	D	3.5	DSHD
10.	£3.	60	10	£9.90
50.	£17	50	50 .	£47.50
100.	£34.	.00	100	£90.00
5.2	25" DSD	D	5.25	" DSHD
10.	£3.	10	10	£4.90
50.	E14.	25	50	.£24.00
100.	£24.	50	100	. £45.00

GAME	S
U M S. II	£20 95
Svviv	E17.50
Pop Up	
Lemmings	
Super Monaco GP	£17.50
Awesome	
Darius Twin	£44.00
Actriser	

BURES	
3.5° 10 caps 3.5° 40 caps 3.5° 80 caps	£4 65
5 25" 10 caps 5 25" 50 caps 5.25" 100 caps	£4.65
3" 20 caps	£3 95



### **♦ FOR SALE**

SPECTRUM 128+2, 2 joysticks, all leads, manuals etc. Many games worth £1000+, offers? (0332) 810153 evenings. (Alan) or write to, 12 Delven Lane, Castle Donington, Derby, DE7 2LJ.

SPECTRUM 128K, Modern Interface 1. Mega Drives, Interface 2, Kempston Interface, Mags, ZX paper rolls, Box of games, Simcity, Vulcan, Dominator, Multiface 128, £200, Will separate, Also some books, Tel: 0223 872492. ATARI STFM, upgraded to one meg. External disk drive. 300 disks. Master Sound, Timeworks, S.T.A.C. Talespin, Dungeon Master, Chaos, Home Accounts, P.D., Demos, games, mouse mat. £350. Tel: 0785 49332.

MEGADRIVE, plus five cartridges, £130. Wanted Neo-Geo games.
Amiga penpais wanted, also Electron, plus one Interface. £20. Video Signal Stabilizer wanted. Will swap any above. Thanx. (Steve). Phone (0628) 72275.

STE 4MEG, clock, Nakshka, Syncro, Triangle, 1 meg ext, colour T.V, 300+ disks. Mainly menus, serious, magazines. Approximately 120, £535 o.v.n.o. Phone after 7pm, John 0202 420682. Buyer collects.

### WANTED FOR CASH

We buy/sell P/X & repair IBM's, Amiga, ST, etc. Working or not.

DMR Electronics

### 0274 817889 or 881308

LAPTOP Tandy 102, built in modern. Spreadsheet on ROM, software, manuals etc including D.M.P., 105 printer. See Tandy Cat for full spec. Ring Frank. 0296 88190, evenings. £275 including carrycase.

MIDI compatible electronic keyboard, 10 note Polyphonic, 210 Sound Dual Tone Mixing, Percussion, Record Feature, Model Concertmate 1000. As new, complete with leads, boxed. £50 + postage. Phone, 0709 370149.

BBC B 32K, complete with tape recorder, radio shack TRS 80 printer. Trolley connecting leads and over 70 Educational/Leisure programs, Ideal for first computer, Excellent condition. Offers around £275. Tel: 0742 848653.

AMIGA P.D's, only 30p per disk. Please send a SAE to, P.J. Demos, 63 Park Lane East, Anlaby Park, Hull, HU4 6TW. SPECTRUM +3 P.S.U. and all leads inc. Tape, lead, lots of games on disk, and tape also magazines, very good condition. Phone Ben on: Harrogate 0423 885184 after 6pm.

ATARI G5XE P.S.U. Datacorder and leads. Loads of games and magazines, very good condition. Phone Ben on: Harrogate 0423 885184 after 6pm.

ATARI XE games for sale. 20 games and 5 cartridges. For full list, send 50p to, Tsoek Yin Cheung, 16 High Street, Grimethorpe, Barnsley, S. Yorkshire, S72 7LS.

INKJET portable, 80 col, 12Jet NLQ, 18M and Epson modes. As new, Cost £300+. Will sell for £130. This printer does 192DPI and 150CPS, Battery or mains. Ring David: 0934 513086.

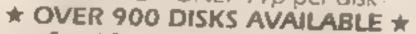
AMIGA 1/2 meg upgrade, (Evesham) with clock and on/off switch. Perfect. £25 c.n.o. or exchange for Sound

MAL

CVLS, 92 Firtree Estate, Thurgoland, Sheffield, Yorks \$30 7BG Tel: 0742 884183. Open to 10pm

\* SPECIAL OFFER \*

3.5 Inch disks (DS/DD) with labels only 32 p AMIGA PD - ONLY 99p per disk.



Send for catalogue disk - 80p

Mouse Mats - Disk Boxes - Printer Ribbons - Amiga/ST Disk Drives

PHONE FOR DETAILS

Sampler, hardware and software for Amiga, or external drive for Amiga. 091 2656523.

ATAR! 520 STFM, still guaranteed, £800+ worth of games, including Midwinter Simcity, Xenon 2, Operation Stealth, joystick and Art packages. Worth £1000+, sell for £400. Tel Leicester, 0533 433319.

COMMODORE 64C, very good condition, with Ligh Gun, joystick and 40 top games, £100+. Will sell separately. Also Speccy 48 with games and tapedeck 0564-772903 evenings.

FOR SALE, Amiga Bingo program.
Full speech number callout. Number checker. Board printer, include free copy of Maniac Bingo. A bargain monly, £2,50. M. Brown, M. Ashfield Grove, North Sheilds, Tyneside.

BBC B, cassette deck, joysticks, with loads of software, some eductional, Titles include Summer Olympiad, Barbarian, Yie-Ar, Star Wars, Superb condition, Only £110 o.n.o. Phone Paul 071 328 7598 (weekends).

MEGADRIVE, one week old, two games £120. PC Engine 17 games, joystick, booster, magazines £400. Ghost and Goblins arcade, everything boxed. Matt 021 743 4863.

Z88 PC2 LINK, BBC link, adaptor, printer cable, case. Eproms RAM packs, manual, all cables, disks, manuals, for use with. Swap for STE, Amiga etc. All unused. Chris. Tel, 0792 467415.

ST originals, Xenonorph, Falcon, Gravity, Galdregeons, Domain, Guild Of Theives £5 each. Ring Chris, Bath 337403 evening or at work 462090.

PROGRAMS, OUTLET AND SPECTRUM MAGAZINE!
PROGRAMS, OUTLET AND HELP PAGES,
UTILITIES, INFO OUTLET AND HELP PAGES,
SERIOUS SOFTWARE
REVIEWS AND HOMEGROWN SOFTWARE MONTHLY SINCE 1987!
SPECIAL OFFER! Latest issue £2.50 to newcomers on:
+3, DISCIPLE/+D, MICRODRIVE, OPUS, TAPE, SAM DISC
CHEZRON SOFTWARE, 605 LOUGHBOROUGH RD., BIRSTALL, LEICESTER LE4 4NJ

AMIGA games. All originals and boxed. Projectyle, Immortal, Imperium, Elite, Anarchy, Terropads, Infestation, Robot Monsters, Star Flight, F29, World Cup, Ballistix: All £11.00 each, inc p+p. Tel: (0908) 665465 eves.

SEGA MEGADRIVE (PAL) with four games, inc Hellfire, World Football etc. Worth £300. Sell for £180. Tel: (Alan) 0698 817211 after 4.

VIGLEN GENIE IBM at compatible 40Mb, HD, 1.44Mb, FDD, VGA monitor, 1Mb, RAM, lots of software, only six months old £650, 081 504 2938 anytime.

DISCO! Two Citronic performer record decks, Vivanco stereo mixer, (and a Citizen 1200+). To sell or swap the lot for Hewlett packard deskjet 500. Ring Colin (091) 4897019.

AMIGA 500, eight months old, exquisite condition, BBC Emaulator, Star War, Deluxe Paint II, plus two joysticks and many more, ask for details. Phone Phillip 051 327 1638 not Tuesday.

AMIGA Screen GEMS, new, boxed, Zipstick joystick, Leisure Suit, Larry III. Treble Champions, Scart, cable, dust cover and much more! Asking \$2370 the lot! Phone rats on \$274 545690 evenings.

TESTBOOM LTD Tel: 0695 571605 Fax: 0695 517606 286 from £650: 386 from £850 STE's POA: Atari TI's POA

Z88 as new, used once, Includes carrycase, P.S.U. and printer lead £125 o.n.o. John 081566 3639 (West London).

AMIGA magazine back issues.
Amiga Format, Amiga Computing,
Amiga User International, Amiga
world, 2-3 years worth, Including
disks £20. Buyer collects, Phone
Richard Gravesend (0474) 534510.

ALL AMSTRAD PCW magazines - your Amstrad/ 8000 plus etc. from 1987 to June 1990. For sale ring for details. 09592 2714 (Sevendaks area).

PAGESTREAM for Atari. Top DTP 4 months old, original, £85 (cost £150). 1st word plus, latest version £30. STE upgrade to IMb. 512K Simms Chips. Solderless, £20, 078 139 3971.

SPECTRUM 128+2 joysticks, interfaces, 150 pounds with of games. £125 o.n.o. Ask for Mark.

PRIVATE SALE of PC bits, +books, +software, All very cheap. Send SASE for full list: Peter Hunter, Mayes Close, Norwich, NR5 9AR.

IBM compatible printer C. Itom 310 very fast 300/50/33 CPS configures to IBM PC Apple Macintosh software retails £560 serious offers please. Consider exchange for Star LC24-200 colour. Phone Dave 0795476339 evenings.

needs slight attention, hence price £50. Buyer pays poastage. Phone (0542) 35520, Ask for John.

YAMAHA keyboard, Portatone PSR 36, £200, Telephone Graham on 0245 350708.

SEGA MASTER system plus, With gun, 3 games, various magazines, bargain price £100 the lot. Tel: Chris (0384) 396807. (Buyer must be around the Midlands).

FREE ST disk magazine! Send a blank disk and an SAEfor your copy of Sten 3, The St enthusiasts' newsletter. John Weller, 49 Haylett Gardens, Surbiton Crescent, Kingston, Surrey, KTI 2ER. TYPECAST PDL for Atari ST/STE. DTP, WP, Art and Clip Art only.Catalogue issue 2,1 out now. Send disk + SAE, typecast PDL, 31 Hartfield Crescent, West Wickham. Kent, BR4 9DW.

SEGA MEGADRIVE (UK version, still under warranty), colour monitor, two games, Japanese converter £250. Tel 081 966 2301. (Durng Daytime) and ask for Mr. Taylor.

ATARI 520 STFM, condition as new. £950 of software. Titles: Xenon 2, Robocop, 1st Word, STOS, Paintpot, joystick, mouse, blank disks + Amstrad DMP3160 Dot Matrix printer. £350 o.n.o. 081 858 1758 evenings.

CBM 64 excellerator 51/4 drive. boxed as new £60. Lots of original CBM64 and Amiga software for sale. For a list. Phone 0908 660453 and ask for Paul. No reasonable offers refused.

COMMODORE A501 Amiga RAM upgrade with clock £30. Aztec "C" V3.GA boxed with manual £90. Tel: 021 552 9839 after 6pm.

AMSTRAD PPC512 double drive 640K memory carrying case. manuals, including carriage £345. Phone 0953 882197.

AMIGA software edition one compilation £9, Dakkhen, Treble Champions £6 each, All boxed, Back Issues N.C.E., Amiga user, Amiga computing etc. 65p - 110p includes postage. 0703 676949 after 7pm.

MSX PANASONIC computer and Toshiba music keyboard HX-MU901 with FM synthesizer unit. All boxed as new, with manuals £75. Tel: 071 481 3696.

magazines, mouse mat etc. All very good condition. Only £300 o.n.o. Tel:: Coventry (0203) 418148.

AMSTRAD CPC 464 with green monitor with MP 2 colour modulator plus 89 games, including Wec Lemans + Robocop plus Target Renegade + two joysticks excellent condition for only £180.Tel: (0924) 469367.

FOR SALE: Amiga class of the 90's pack £450 A590 20Mb hard disk drive £200. Both unused, unwanted prize. Phone Richard. Gravesend (0474) 534510.

**BALLARENA ROTOR** Nevryon Inertia Archimedes £10 each, or swap for PRM's. Kings Quest I-III, £25 (PC). Mog, 12 Llwyn Berry. Georgetown, Merthyr Tydfil, Mid-Glam, CF48 1DB.

720K disk drives only £35 inc p+p black, bare mechanism in very good condition. Standard Shugart Interface suits BBC or IBM compatible. Phone 0254 692011 (evenings)

520 STE power pack, 4096 colours, stereo sound, over 200 games. (Gauntlet Resolution 101, Space Harrier, etc. Still under warranty and boxed as new Phone Dave on 0767 313676, £300 p.n.o.

GAMEBOY with Tetris, two player, lead, boxed very good condition £50. Tel: 0793 851181.

PC ENGINE (PAL) in immaculate condition, boxed with P.S.U. Joypad and 1 game only £99 or swap for Scart Core Grafx, Tel: 0296 415584 (Aylesbury).

ATARI Lynx, £115 p.n.o. includes Blus Lightening, Gates of Zendocon. California games and all leads, PC Engine games, £20 o.n.o. each. Phone 0403 61899 eves and weekends.

MEGADRIVE, British version, only 4 months old. Extra joypad, six games inc Populous, Eswat, Super Hang-On, Revenge of Shinobi, lots of magazines etc. £270. Phone (0883) 622631.

### PETE'S PD

\* Amiga PD Shareware £1.25 per disk inc. P&P \* ● UTILITIES/GAMES ● DEMOS ● MUSIC● Phone for catalogue details

No membership fees, 1st class return of post, same day service, no hidden extras

TEL: 081 855 1503 (10-8 Mon-Fri/10-2 Sat)

YAMAHA keyboard PSS-580 full midi ideal for Amiga ST etc. 100 voices, 100 rythms, 49 keys £80 o.n.o. Bargain or swap Amiga External drive 31/2" must be quality. Tel. Cardiff (0222) 239102.

ATARI MEGA4 computer with 40 Megabyte hard disk, Hi-res monitor, SLM804 laser printer, Calamus, Outline Art, Logistix, Superbase Professional, Sage Accountent plus (manuals), 5 days training, £2,500. 071 435 2384.

HYUNDI IBM/XT compatible with 20 meg hard card with mone monitor, original software, inc Database 4, Word Perfect 5.1, 123 v 2.2, Freelance, PC Tools 6.0, Timeworks DTP. Contact Andy 0253 724607, £399 o.n.o.

AMSTRAD CPC6128, colour monitor, advanced Art Studio, mouse. 30 games, joysticks, manuals,

AMIGA 2000 with monitor, 3meg RAM 40meg hard drive, Iwin 31/4 drives one 51/4 drive with bridge board. All software £1300 o.n.o. 0272 649554.

MEGA ST1, worth £600 and software worth over £350, joystick and £65 of magazines, total worth over £900. Any offfers contact me on 081 397 6980. Quick sale needed.

SPECTRUM software full price £3.50: approximately III titles. Budget 75p, approximately 50 titles. Phone 081 677 6418 or write to G. Bransby, 25 Caroline Close, Streatham, London, SW16 ZXU for lists.

SAM COUPE - 512K twin drive comms Interface printer, lead, joystick, cassette player, lots of PD + full price software + Format, Turbo. Supplement outlet etc. Sensible offers. 081-677 6418 home, 071-721 2481 work, Guy.



### QUALITY COMPUTER REPAIRS + UNBEATABLE SALES

---- Specialists at ----Amiga, Atari, Commodore, Sinclair PRICES FROM ONLY £17.50 inc. return P&P

### STAR ASSOC. COMPUTERS

Unit 25 Bridge Park, Harrow Road, Wembley. Phone 081 961 5366 - till 7pm

AMSTRAD CPC6128 with colour monitor, mouse, advanced Art Studio. mouse mat, over 40 games, tape recorder disks, disk box, magazines. etc. Tel: Coventry (0203) 418148. 2300 o.n.o.

ATARI 1040 STF and SM124 mono Hi-res monitor, £360 o.n.o. Including Atari Basic, Flair Paint, Microsoft Write Word Processeor, organiser software. One Megabyte memory and drive. Only £360. Phone 0275 33755496.

CPC 6128 soft/ hardare books for sale. SAE, Arthur, Brympton Cottage, Brunswick Road, Worthing, Sussex. BNU 3NO

FOR SALE, for all computers ST Amiga, Amstrad etc, software and hardware. Phone Steve now on 091 2674371, between 6-7pm. For out of this world prices, well what are you waiting for?

FOR SALE, Atarl ST 31/2" internal disk drives, must be able to collect or pay p+p. Ring 091 2674371, with details. Tel 091 2674371.

APPLE Macintosh SE, 2.5Mb, RAM, 40Mb hard disk, personal Laser printer SC, £1950 for both. Will split. Tel Reading 698067.

CTIZEN 120D nine pin printer, in very good condition, plus printer lead, £80. Tel 081 422 9099.

### P.O. BOX 15, NORMANTON. WEST YORKS, WF6 2YR. SEGA MEGADRIVE (JAPANESE)

Import Megadrive, PAL Version, with PSU and Joypad. Including one game, choose from ESWAT or RASTAN 2, R.R.P. £180.00

All for £149.99

ı	CARTRIDGE	5	
ı	GHOSTBUSTER\$	£32	99
Ì	ESWAT	£32	99
ı	STRIDER	.237	99
ı	FATMAN	£37.	99
	SHADOW DANCER	£37.	99

ALL PRICES INCLUDE VAT AND POSTAGE Available now our newsletters for either

Megadrive or Gameboy. For your copy send a stamped addressed envelope stating version required. We also do Gameboy Super Famicom end Segs Game Gear

OLYMPUS OM.40 camera outfit. 50mm, 28-70mm lenses, Power Winder 2, Olympus T-20 flash, flash bracket, camera bag. Valued at £280 by shop, only £200. Phone 0275 375496, evenings.

C64 and Amstrad, tape and disk software for sale, From £1, each, All originals. For list send SAE to T. James, 20 Park Road, Nailsworth, Stroud, Glos, GLG OHR, Without delay!.

AMIGA 500, Flight of Fantasy pack, £299 o.n.o. Also megadrive, plus game £125 o.n.o. Some games also available. Also Master system £40 o.n.o., and some games. Thats all! Tel. 05822 413943.

AMSTRAD PC1512SD colour PLVS. Amstrad DMP3160 printer, only £350 o.n.o. Phone 081 789 1865 after 7pm.

ATARI 5.25" disk drive. Boxed as new Switchable 40/80 track (MS-DOS compatible) built in PSU, led track indicator £70. Tel Steve. 0332 383 456, after 6.30pm.

**HEWLETT** Packard, H.P., Paintjet Colour Graphics printer. Never used, still boxed, cost over £800 new. Yours for only £350 a.n.o. Needs cables and power pack or swap for Star LC24 200 printer. Tel 0279 420979.

SPECTRUM +3, manuals , magazines, P.S.U., very good condition, working. But no software. Bargain £85. Steve 081-517-6771 evenings.

C64 with tape deck, joystick. Lightpen, over 60 original games, music and Art programs, loads of magazines, excellent condition, only £185 o.n.o. Phone 04022 25694 after 6pm. Ask for Ben.

ATARI, Basic (XL edition) £7.50 Atari basic source book, £6.50. Mapping the Atarl, £8.50. Programmers reference guide for Atari 400/800 computers £10,50 Phone 0538 753137 before 7pm.

IMPORT megadrive play's all carts. Plus, 6 games inc Eswat, Mickey Mouse, Ghouls and Ghosts, Rambo III, Golden Axe and Monaco GP, Only 1 month old, Offers? Best secures. Tel 081 6607245. Evenings after 6pm.

AMIGA PD, Clip Art and utilities, 75p per disk. Quality media. Virus free. I'll pay postage. For details send SAE to: 96 Charles Street, Newark, Notts, NG24 IRL.

ATARI 520 STFM D/S drive, plenty of software, eg Kick Off2, Midwinter, Falcon, Balance of Power, Speedball, lots of PD, all for only £200. Phone Pat 0753 811567.

COMMODORE PRINTER MPS8001. with lead instruction book. Six spare ribbons £55. Also over £20 worth of paper suite above £9. Sephton, 16 Bloemfontein Avenue, Shepards Bush, London, W12 7BL, 081749 1454.

AMIGA " Deluxe Productions". original, unopened, make your own videos, promotions etc. 4 disks plus manual. Needs 1meg. Super value at £8. inc post. Tel: Woking (0483) 764857.

TWO high density disk drives 3.5" unused (Citizen mechanism) £55 each inc postage. Contact Tony, on (0224) 5813333 after 6pm.

AMSTRAD Devpac 80, high quality machine code assembler, CP/M based, with full user instructions. Never used, as this was unwanted gift. £25 (less than half price) Tel 0224 734931, after 5pm.





3 1/2" Disks inc Labels - DS/DD 100% Error Free - fully guaranteed 2 for 1 replacement

P&P: 50 disks & over is free. Under 50 disks only £1.50 All prices include VAT. Send Cheques or Postal Orders to

**KYC Disks** 

Shop now open: 9 Barmouth Rd. Tel: 081 877 3738 51 Barmouth Road, Wandsworth, London, SW18 2DT. Telephone 081-870 0469

BARGAIN: Yamaha PSS-580, 100 styles/voices. Effect, Custom drummer, manuals. Midi interface DR. T's midi recording studio (Amiga). £150, will swap for Propagez or (any hardware/software) for Amiga. 021 788 0494.

AMIGA A500, 1 meg upgrade with clock, PRO 5000 joystick, mouse, manuals, 4 boxed games, 30 disks. Contact Matthew (0656) 767814 £3300 o.n.o.

CPC FilRMWARE guide for sale!
Also blank CF-2 disks, £1.50 each!
And more CPC goodies, SAE for list. R. Whitewell, # Chase Mews,
Chase Road, Ross, HFDS, MR95JQ, Phone (0989) 66987.

NORTON advanced utilities, V4.5, £10. Easycad V2.05, £20. Both, no manuals, 5.25" disks and manual, £20. Tel: Woking (0483) 764857.

MSOFT mouse with adaptors, and Paint software. Unopened, £30. Autosketch V2, 5.25° disks, £20. Superbase personal £15. (All (BM). Tel: Woking (0483) 764857.

AMSTRAD CPC464, games for sale. All originals: Mission Jupiter, Tanium, ATV, SAS Combat, Thai Boxing, Beach Head, Joe Blade II. All games 99p each, or the lot for £5.69.

ATARI 130 computer + 11050 disk drive with games for sale, or swap. £100 or SM124 mono monitor, for STE. Write Peter, 35 Clifford Road, North Shore, Blackpool, Lancs, FY1 2PU.

C64 with 1541 disk drive, 803 printer, tape deck, action replay cartridge, koala- pad, joysticks, books, software and desk, £275. Phone 061 335 0358 (Manchester).

### WIN A COMMODORE AMIGA HOME COMPUTER

Just listen to the recording and answer the simple trivia questions.

It's easy. Go on.

Phone now

0898 88-66-42

Duration approx. 5.5 mins, be advised to ask permission: Calls cost 34p per min cheap rate, 45p all other times (24hrs).

Telephone Information Service, 17a Hunter Ave., Warrington, Cheshire, WA2 9RQ

MEGADRIVE cartridges, for £25., Famicom cartridges, for £18. Consoles also for sale. Add £1., for p+p. For more details, contact 081 5719324, after 5pm.

AMIGA 500 + A501, RAM expansion + 1081. Hi-res monitor. All perfect, boxed + manuals etc. Complete with loads of games, magazines + serious software. £490 o.n.o. Phone 0272 429357, evenings.

AMIGA PD. 100 disks of demos, music and graphics etc. for £65. P. Peel, 25 Lee Road. Nelson, Lancs, 889 8SD. ATARI ST software for sale - Master Sound 2 - £20. Gunship £10. Stormlord - £7, Demons and Drivers - £15. Zynaps - £7. Phone (061) 430 8AS and ask for Joe, evenings.

CPC 6128, soft/hardware books for sale. SAE to, Arthur Brympton Cottage, Brunswick Road, Wortang, Sussex, BNU 3NQ

commodore 64, Dattasette, P.S.U. and some software. Immaculate condition £120 c.n.o. (the wife wants a car so the computer has to go). Phone Henpecked on 0705 823470.

FOR SALE Kings Quest I, II, III, IV, also Manhunter and Dungeon Master all originals £70 the lot. Ring and ask for Mark.

AMIGA books (7), software and magazines. Includes Devpac 2, Assembler and Falcon, Ideal for programmers. £80 the lot. Phone 061 335 0358 for details. (Manchester).

KINGTECH portable IBM, compatible computer plus Olivetti DM 100 printer. All for £400. Double 51/4" drives, 640K RAM, LCD screen, good condition. Tel: Sheffield, 0742-682460,

CM/28/64, ₺ disk drives, modem, printer, 20 books, 200 blank disks, plus 100's of games on disk and tape, plus many extras. Tel: 0889 565608.

FERRARI! And other supercars.
Scanned pictures in Degas Format
(P11). Send £3., or £2. + disk to
Haywood Milton, 1 Glendyke Road,
Liverpool, Mersyside, L18 6JR,
Porsche, Jaguar, Mercedes, 8MW
and more.

REPLAY 8 new, unused. Free sample disk, lead, thirty magazines + disks. Total only £75, if interested then write : Paul Larkin, 41 Hatfield Crescent, Grovehill, Heme! Hampstead, Herts, HP2 6DA.

NEXT CUBE with 400dpi laser printer, rewritable CD, software includes impron, Wingz, Media Station, unwanted bon us. £3000 c.n.o. Phone Jon: (0476) 68003 after 10pm

LOADS OF CPC goodies for safe!
Games, magazines, soft 968, blank
disks and much more! SAE for full
price list! R. Whitewell, 2 Chase
Mews, Chase Road, Ross, MFDS,
MR9 5JQ. Phone: (0989) 66987.

ACORN Electron + games, joyport extension, manual + programmers books, leads and adaptor all included in an ideal 1st computer, still boxed and hardly used £35 o.n.o. Ring Robin (0532) 583759.

SPECTRUM games, manuals, Wafa Drive and extras for sale or swap, for Amiga upgrade. Write Ray Nurden, 6 James Street, Newport, Gwent, NP9 ZGZ, All letters will be answered.

AMIGA software, boxed, 12 games for sale. £29 Retaliator, International Soccer, Rainbow Islands, World Class Ledgerboard etc. All for £65 or swap for Amiga, action replay, cartridge, or IMb RAM upgrade. Tel: (0504) £265162. Ask for Neil.

AMiGA PD, 75p unbranded, £1.10, branded (p+p inc) send SAE for catalogue. Also send list for exchanges to Darrel Beckwith. 1065 Manchester Road, Linthwaite, Huddersfield, HD7 5LS. All letters answered

ARCHIMEDES software, Arcpincall, Manchester United, Pipedrivers, Bank Manager, Pendown etc. All originals. Tel: 0706 817570, for details.

Herts, SG12 0AU (0920) 469711

S. THIS WEEKS SPECIAL

\* CUMANA 3.5" EXT DISK DRIVE (AMIGA) \*

UMITED \* £53.00 \* STOCK

FOR MORE SPECIAL DEALS AND EXCELLENT SERVICE PLEASE COMPLETE THE COUPON & RETURN IT WITH A \$1.00 CHEQUE OR POSTAL ORDER PAYABLE TO I.C.S. AND RECEIVE OUR FULL PRICE LIST.

NAME	
ADDRESS	НА
***************************************	SO
EL NO	LEI
PRICES EXLUDE VAT & DELIVERY	PLEAS

SOFTWARE DEDUCATION DELEISURE DELEIS

**MAIN INTERESTS** 

PLEASE SEND ME REGULAR PRICE SPECIALS -

COMPUTER desk, for sale. Room for monitor, keyboard., C.P.U., mouse, etc. Good condition, bargain at only £30 o.n.o. Phone Richard. 859 0386. Don't miss this once in a lifetime bargain!

AMIGA A500, stereo sound, colour monitor and Star 24pin printer. Over £300 of software, mouse manuals, IMB, ROM, Cost over £1200. Sell for £700. (0241) 73423. Ask for Craig.

AMIGA PD, large collection for states, send 90p, for latest catalogue on 3.5" disk- with loads a free PD. Chris Jackman, 3 Albion Terrace, Lexham Road, Litcham, Kings Lynn, Norfolk, PE32 2QQ.

ATARI STFM 1meg. Two drives. Large software collection, Master Sound 1+2. D.T.P. Demos, public domain magazines, manuals, etc. £325 or swap for Amiga 500. Tel: 0785 49332. Ask for Gary. ZX SPECTRUM 128, Multiace 128, Alphacom printer, Interface 1, microdrive, Echo music keyboard (connects to computer), joystick £90 o.n.o. Telephone (0533) 861164.

OLIVETTI PC1, twin disk drive, colour monitor, plus Dot Matrix printer. Hardly used, cost £750. Best offer over £400 secures. Telephone 08012 4776.

PCW video digitiser £45. Startrack Interface £12, Scratchpad + £12. Easy Labeller £10, Tas-Sign £10. Sidewise £6. Datafax 4 stationary £13. Mallard Basic manual £6. 0274 487870.

AMSTRAD CPC6128 games, original disks with documenta Tion - Trivial Pursuit, Scrabbte, Cluedo, Monopoly, Scaletrix and 13 other, only £15 for the lot! Tel. Bradford 0274 544928 after 7pm please.

Let this advertising space work for YOU!! For Only £61

Contact Tim Partridge on 0225 442244

ATAR! STFM, mouse, joystick £240. Plus over 300 games and DTP. Music Art etc. £650 the lot, or will split. Tel 071 267 5540.

65 or

Tel:

1065

LIS L

igina!

poly,

ST GAMES, £8 each. Midwinter. FOFT, Imperium, Virus, Falcon, Starray, Blasteroids, Bomber, Shadowgate, C Compiler, £10 each. Phone Dave on 02993 71275, after

ST SOFTWARE, Timeworks, DTP £35. Superbase Personal £25. Books, Viewsheet User guide £5. Using Lotus 123 on Amstrad PC 2011. Tel. Port Talbot, 0639 884603.

ATARI 130XE computer with 1010 data recorder, touch tablet, joystick, manuals, 15 games on cassette, 10 on disk, £80. Buyer collects. Phone (0628) 663004, after 6pm.

MAGAZINES FOR SALE: A.C.E. issues 4, to date £25. Phone Dave on (0932) 224586. Between 7pm and 8.30am only! Buyer must coffect, as car is unwell!

ATARI STE, 1meg, Master Sound cartridge, joystick, boxed, manuals, etc, £290. No offers. Tel. Stephon on Cardiff (0222) 7778000, ext. 229.

AMIGA 500, extra 512K, second disk drive, colour monitor, T.V. modulator. disk boxes, books, magazines with disks, lots of software, and more. Quick sale for £699, may split. Phone 0656 742182.

AMSTRAD CPC6128, excellent condition. Disk drive and tape, with £200 worth of software. All disks comes, with monitor. Bargain at £330, o.n.o. Willing to exchange for Amiga 500.

COSTOMISED CABLES made to your specification

Many types of custom cables for business. home computers and peripherals.

- \* Printer Cables
  - \* Monitor Cables
- \* Extension Cables
- \* Power Cables

FOR PRICE LIST WRITE:-

# TECTEL LTD.

63 Upway, Rayleigh, Essex, SS6 8AA Tel 0268 778162

COMPUTERS

For probably the best prices and deals or Home and Business Computers, Acorn Archimedes, Atari ST's, Lynx Commodore 641. Amiga's, Amstrad, Star. Citizen, Canon, Panasonic assure Control Control Consoles Plus printers, disk drives, moniton, memory up a structure accessones etc. Great deals on PC's

> \* FAX M/C's \* ANSWER M/C's \* PHONES \* Joysticks from £4.99 Blank disks 5.25", 3.5" 3"

# SGM ELECTRONICS

19 Charles Street, Wigan, Lancs, WN1 2BP Tel (0942) 321435 Fax (0942) 321435 Mon-Thurs 11,00am - 9,00pm Fin - Sat 11.00am - 7.00pm or later Repairs to most makes of computers

ATARI portfolio with 64K card. Parallel Interface, lead, book about machine, usual manuals etc. Still under guarantee, as only five weeks old. Sell for only £185. May split 0734 566487.

AMIGA 500 V1.3, plus CM10845 colour stereo monitor, with second drive, monitor plinth, dust covers x 2. mouse mats x3, joystick, games and magazines. All in excellent condition £520 o.n.o. Tel: Wirral 051 677 3114.

AMSTRAD PC1512, for sale, 640K standard memory, mouse, mono, CGA monitor. All original GEM paint, dual 5.25; model, £400 p.n.o. Call wayne (0284) 703765 evenings.

SPECTRUM 128 + 2A genius mouses light, two months old. Guaranteed. Phaser boxed £120 o.n.o. Tel: 071 263 5155.

AMIGA PD, software for sale. Hundreds of disks available, all dsiks less than £2. Phone or write to. Johns PD, 21 Lower Careys Road. Limerick City, Ireland, Tel (061) 3112257. Also swaps.

AMIGA Cyclone disk back up utilty. Hardware and software, 2nd Dive required, £15, Tel 0900 812496,

C64 FOR SALE. Over 100 games and programs, mouse, Art Package and Lightgun. Total package worth over £400, sell for £200. Phone 0634 407097 (Medway).

100 AMIGA originals sale/exchange. Send SAE, 13 Bournville Lane, Birmingham, B30 2JY, Also PD swaps wanted. Tel (021) 459 7576.

PC ENGINE, plus three games. Splatter House, Vigilante, Nija Warriors, Cost £225, Septemner 1990. Accept £125 a.n.o. Tel 091 5293899

VORTEX 40Mb hard disk for sale. Faster than the official Commodore A590. R.R.P. £500, sell for £300 o.n.o. Tel: (0925) 818841.

JAPANESE megadrive for sale, still boxed. Three excellent games T.F. III, Super Monaco, Shadow Dancer. Quick sale needed, a real bargain, for only £180 or o.v.n.o. Call Lee. 0924 261941.

COMMODORE 64C with 1541 disk drive, and CN2 + £200 software. mouse, sound sampler, final cartridge + lots more. Very good condition £250. Star LC-10C for Commodore. Boxed as new, £95. Call Dave. 086756093.

AMSTRAD CPC 6128, colour monitor, disk drive, joystick, Ligh-Pen, lots of software. Mostly on disk £260. (0707) 260417, Herts.

COMMODORE 64, games for sale. Around 60 titles, mostly old, but good! £30 the lot. Cotact Shaun, 40 Lancaster Terrace, Chester- Le-Street, Co. Durham, DH3 3NP.

BBC B, issue 7, recently serviced. ATPL ROM expansion, Watford 32K RAM, £220. Opus dual 40/80 disk drives, 90 blank disks £120. Teletext adaptor £35. The lot £350 o.n.o. 0282 74313.

EPSON FX-105 9pin printer, 132 colour, letter quality, £55, 0689 832795.

ACORN A300, multipad professional (digitiser etc), £90, ZX Spectrum +2, software + books, £75. TGM issues 1-34, £35 (delivery extra). S. Hall, 4 Hadrians Close,

# GOODS WANTED

■ PLAYER adaptor, joypad and PC Kid. For PC Engine. Will pay £10, £5 and £15 respectively. All must be in good working order, with full documentation etc. supplied. Tel: 081 504 9207.

WANTED. Software for TRS 80 model, 4 on disk 5.25; disk call (039) 85) 438 or write, 2 Town Mead. Oakford, Devon, EX16 9EW.

**DETACHABLE** tractor feed unit (ideally with dust cover hood), for Epson FX80 printer (80 column width). Phone Catriona on 081 991 0125.

SOUND SAMPLER wanted (Amiga) exchange for Evesham 1/2 meg. memory expansion with clock and on/off switch. (Amiga) perfect, or exchange for external drive (Amiga). Phone 091 2656523 anytime.

WANTED Atarl 1050 disk drive, will pay good price must be in good working order. Or will swap for my Cumana 31/2" disk dirve 1meg (ST). Tel: Tony 051 933 2108.

# DISKS DISKS

PERFECT FOR AMIGA AND 10 3.5" disks only.....£6.00 25 3.5" disks only.....£12.50 50 3.5" disks only.....£22.50

100 3.5" disks only.....£40.00 ATARI ST PUBLIC DOMAIN CATALOGUE £ 1.00



10 CHANDLERS COURT EATON, NORWICH NR4 6EY Telephone: (0603) 503382





# EXCITING NEW PHONELINE FOR ST, AMIGA AND PC USERS

# SOFTWARE PIRATES CLUB

\* WIN A LYNX \* NEWS \* REVIEWS \*

0898 336076

DIGITAL DIMENSION, 85 WATLEYS END ROAD, BRISTOL, BS17 1PW. CALL CHARGES 34p PER MIN CHEAP RATE, 45p ALL OTHER TIMES

WANTED Oric Atmos, ZX81, Juoiter Ace and Elan Enterprise must be working. Also wanted other old computers, eg. Dragon 32, or 64. Tel 061 797 0179

HAND SCANNER wanted for Atari ST, must be with software. Please ring (0889) 502547, and ask for Richard, up to £130 paid.

WANTED: Zork II, Zork III, or the original Colossal Cave Adventure for Commodore plus/4. Call Dave on 0203 383731.

NEED, Amiga printer driver for the Canon BJ13OE or IBM XL24E. Which will let me use 360x360 dpi print mode. As I can only get 360x180. Please help 0934 513086.

QL HARDWARE, ie hard disk Interface colour monitor. Software ie, QPAC II, QRAM. QL contacts. Also wanted. Ring Steve on 0282 51854 (Lancs). Also want disk Interface for Black Spectrum 128K.

AMIGA Graphic Artist/ Animator needs programmers games. Designers to work on game projects. Write to Ian, 29 New England Road, Brighton, Sussex, BNI 3TU OR PHONE 0273 748695.

PC 386 with V.G.A. colour monitor, 40+Mb hard disk, plus associated software, must be as new. Up 蚕 £1000 waiting, tEL: 0527 29092.

FREE INFO PACKS
WHAT HAVE YOU GOT TO LOSE?

FREEPHONE

0800 252 623

Or (051-924 0200)

VISA

OP POST Free Tot

UNBEATABLE PRICES,

EREEPOST, LIVERPOOL, L23 0XIII

CX5M YAMAHA music computer. Contact S.E Young, 127 Outwood Road, Radcliffe, Manchester, M26 9AY or phone 061 724 7202, evenings.

WANTED ST Internal 31/2" disk drives. Will swap for software, must be working. Can collect in the North East area. Ring 091 2674371 with details. Ask for Steve after 6pm.

+D disciple for Speccy 48K. Ring Barry, on 029 677 0636, evenings.

FREE box of disks to the first person to lend me instruction disks and manuals for Amiga XT Bridge Board. Stuart (0224) 323737.

HELP wanted, set up and use Sozobon C. Rick, 58 Hillside Road, Sudbury, Suffolk, C010 65A. Also wanted, ST PD, to swap. Send list. VIEWDATA Sysops, send details of your boards to be included in a new directory, to. Viewdata Directory, 56 Aldham House Lane, Wombwell, Barnsley, South Yorkshire, \$73 8RG.

AMIGA mucians wanted, III contact Andy at 7 Haddon Croft, Halesowen West, Midlands, B63 IJQ, Send a SAE, for more details.

WANTED, information on RGB data display model, no CC1422, also colour graphics enhancer CGE 350. HR. manufact supplier. Phone 092575 8477. Will pay.

WANTED: Commodore 1541 disk drive, please send details to: Brian Thompson, 34 ST Michaels Mount, Byker, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE6 2FT.

WANTED: Tomahawk on disk for +3 Spectrum. Peter Smith. Dover 202530.

PCW, mini office wanted. Old PD, also wanted, £2. per disk. All others considered. Write to: Paula, 3 Moorend Avenue, C'Wood, Birmingham, B37 55D. Back issues of PCW magazines also wanted.

AMIGA and PC public domain contacts wanted. Will swap. Please write to: 25 Salamanca Raod, Cheltnham, Glos, GL52 5LA.

WANTED. ST Format issues 1-12. Must have coverdisks. Also ST user issue 54 with disk. Telephone (0795) 425653, after 4pm.

ATARI 2600. Collector requires games only. £1,25 paid for each game. Phone 0742 693311, Ray.

WANTED for Atari 65XE: 1050 disk drive. Must be in good working order, with all cables and manuals. Will pay up № £50. Phone Adam now, on (021) 459 1970, after 6pm.

C64 software available. Many original tape or disk. I need software for expert cart. Any version around. Please contact, Ron, 51 Davidson Way, Knightsbridge, Livingston, West Lothian, EH54 8HQ. Tel: (0506) 37002.

WANTED, American start magazine, all copies especially late issues will pay £3 № £5, with disks. Please phone 0992 764194, after 7pm anytime weekends.

WANTED Amiga A500 +1/2 meg, 2nd drive, will swap new mega drive +10 games or sell £350. Offers welcome! Please ring Steven on: (0924) 407919. (day) 402430 (night).

GENISCAN scanner for commodore Amiga. Please contact Ken. (0268) 793973 (Essex). Evenings and weekends.

PC contacts wanted, 100% reply. Matthew Culverwell, 24 Cloridge Road, Hartshill, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs, ST4 6EX, or (0782) 612304 after 6pm.

WANTED Amstrad PCW 9512. To buy or swap for my Amstrad PCW8512, with SCA prof. Series/Parallel Interface RS232. Loco 2. Any info on Durango Office word processor model F85. 0744 27067.

WANTED any infomation on my Durango F85 business word processor, with wide printer, 9" monitor, twin 51/4" drive. Tel: 0744 27067.

BROKEN Amiga 500 wanted for cash. Any conditon considered. Tel: 0778 393470.

£5 to the first person to lend me a copy of Multiripper V2.2 (V1.0 may be accepted). Disks **m** Richard, 41 Pinner Park, Guns, Harrow, Middx, HA2 6LQ. Contacts also wanted.

WANTED. Synthesier or Monosynth type keyboard with or without midl, any make or age. (Anything considered). Can collect. Tel: 0604 843536.

WANTED. Drum machine with or without midi, any age or condition considered, will pay postage or collect. (cash waiting). Tel: 0604 843536.

WANTED PC VGA graphics and movies, to buy or exchange 256 colours B+W, GIF, PIC PCX. Files Ell areas of interest. Phone 0836 631343.

WANTED, hardware for QL Software for QL, also require disk interface for Black Spectrum 128K. Ring Steve on 0282 51854.

WANTED, Hyper Draw originals with manual for unemployed begginer. Can only afford £10 for both, will pay postage. Any offers, please ring anytime. Dave 0928 713075.

MEGADRIVE games wanted, will pay good prices. Also arcade power stick wanted. Will pay £20 or swap for Ringside Angel. Phone Paul on (0462) 683066.

WANTED, on tape or disk for the Amstrad CPC 464/6128: Dynamite Dux, North and South, Gunship, Golden Axe, Twin World, Puffy's saga. Please contact Anthony on: 0604 716057. Afternoons/ evenings

WANTED Teletext adaptor tuner for Commodore Amiga with 10845 monior. Phone Blackpool: 0253 46110 will collect or pay postage C.O.D.

WANTED 2" floppy disks, must be suitable for use with a Zenith minisport computer. Tel 021 308 4775.

WANTED 40/80 track 5.25" disk drive for BBC model B. Prefer built in P.S.U. Cash waiting. Phone 0532 869425 ask for Michael. Also wanted BBC user guide. Cash waiting, please phone now!

# SKYE COMPUTERS

IBM compatible 286 systems

★ 12Mhz ★ 1Mb RAM
 ★ 40Mb hard disk ★ Mono VGA monitor
 ★ 1.2Mb floppy

Only £635 + del. & VAT

Any other configurations available For brochure + price list

Phone/Fax SKYE Computers 0203 663215

WANTED any info or manual for Duaneo word processor with twin 51/4" disk drives. Wide printer, 8" green monitor, All integral. MOdel F85. Phone 0744 27067.

# **♦ SERVICES**

TELEVIDEO computer 3 terminal, runs CP/M software, free to local club/charity who can make good use. New owner collects. Tel: Neil Haughton, 0734 594626. Business hours.

ANIMATIONS and demos, for swaps or selfing. Latest titles. Please drop line to, 4 Lipgate Place, Portishead, Bristol. Guaranteed reply! Phone (0272) 845571, after 6pm. Ask for Mark. Amiga or ST.

95 all

ware

e for

ve on

with

pay

III pay

stick

or for

t drive

ranted

ANY info on advance 86B ie, DIP switch setting, upgrade wanted E.J. Sparrow Hull. Please contact me as soon as possbible. Please ref letter in copy II? Tech tips. Write to Mr. Cassidy, 63 Flodden Way, Low Grange, Billingham, Clevehand TS23 3LQ.

SCANNING service. Up to A4 size scanned to Degas/ Neo Format. Photocopies preferable. Send disk +£2 for 1 - 7 images, 30p extra for more. Harry Milton, t Glendyke Road, Liverpool, Mersyside.

**ELECTRONIC** music and Jean Michel Jarre Fanzine issue four out now. Send SAE for info or £130 To Graham Needham, 75 Lavernook Road, Penarth, S.Glam CF6 2NY.

ANY Amiga software companies wanta good graphics artist m help with games, then phone:0705 256778 ask for Alan.

FEMALE Amiga user, wants to swap PD disks, no private stuff wanted. Send PD lists to: Jean Keenaw, 61 Glenfinnan PD, Glasgow, G20 8JG. \*\*\* mail only\*\*\*

HELP! If you can program in 6800, or can draw or make music, send # SAE and sample of your work to me: I am forming a PD programming group. Write S. Moons, 1 Tye Gardens, Grange Park, Swindon, Wiltshire, SN5 6ES.

**GENIUS** Technophilic Fanatics with Pseuedonxms: Cyberpunks Coders etc unite, drop me a line: JLH, 3 Renton Avenue, Guiseley, Leeds, CS20 8EE.

THANKS to the APC PD club, for Colossal Cave. Rory W.

VIEWDATA Sysops, send details of your boards to be included in a new directory to Viewdata Directory, 56 Aldham House Lane, Wombwell, Barnsley, South Yorkshire S73 8RG.

WANTED, information on RGB data display model, no CC1422, also colour graphics enhancer CGE 350 HR manufact supplier. Phone 092575 8477 will pay.

MEGADRIVE swap your games through our National service, meet local owners. Send SAE £3 for six months membership. Megadrive Club Laurel Bank, Arthington Lane, Pool in Wharsdale Leeds, L521 1J2.

SOMEONE willing to help, new Amiga A500 owner, printer trouble amoung otther things. Please Ring 06973 31759.



WANT, new Amiga, public domain, cheaply and quickly? 40p a disk, plus demos and games on catalogue disk. Disk and stamp to: Burmans PD, 41 Pinner Park Gardens, Harrow, Middlesex, HA2 6LQ.

AMIGA PD, over 250 titles, 75p per disk including p+p. Send SAE for list to Pete Smith, 10 Linden Rise. Bourne, Lincs, PE10 9TD.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

ATARI ST, PD to swap, senD SAE to: Adrian Judd, 25 Windmill Way, Reigate, Surrey, RH2 OJB.

HELP! I am trying III learn 'C', but can't seem to get very far. Can any other Amiga user, help me? Contact Paul, 90 Notley Road, Lowestoft, Suffolk, NR33 OUG.



ATARI 8-BIT owners, London based user group starting. All machines supported, cassette and disk, PD and soft-mag, to follow. Contact Afgie, 47 Buchanan Gardens, London, NW10 5AD, enclosing SAE.

PC MONTHLY, a monthly magazine, disk packed full with software, news and letters. For more information, write to: Richard Lillycrop, 19 Nelson Court, Watton, Norfolk IP25 6EL.

BUSINESS idea's wanted. ST owner with D.T.P. database, etc wants to start a small but profitable business, but lacks idea's. Offers of Help:- Mr. Ogden. 8 Bertelin Road Stafford, ST16 633.

CRYSTAL juction B.B.S now on-line completely free no changes(ormaccy the project BBS) Now on (0384) 441929. All speeds 300/ H.S.T 24

# FREE! Reader Ads Order Form

PLEASE TICK THE  ST  AMIGA	CATEGORY YOU WANT  PC 8-BIT	YOUR AD TO GO IN:  PRINTERS  MONITORS	☐ MODEMS ☐ SOFTWARE ☐ OTHER	Send your reader ads to: SHOPPING EXPRESS READER ADS, 30 MONMOUTH STREET, BATH BA1 2BW
NAMEADDRESS	AD HERE USING ONE BOX	PER WORD IN BLOCK CAPIT		■ Sorry, NO trade ads. All reader ads must be from private individuals ■ We cannot vouch for the quality of goods and/or services offered in this section. All ads are accepted in good faith. ■ We reserve the right to amend or refuse reader ads at our discretion ■ No pirated software may be sold through these columns. Any reader being offered non-originals should contact us. ■ We cannot guarantee that reader ads will appear in particular issues of Express. ■ The following declaration should be signed:  My advertisement conforms to the terms above and is legal, decent, honest and truthful
				Signed

ow! You just bought a ! brand new Amiga. 16-bit processing power. 4096 colours, four channel stereo sound. Hardware scrolling, independent graphics custom chips, in short, the business. You pull that shiny beige sucker out of its packaging, with polystyrene and plastic flying everywhere. Plug it in, switch it on, and boot up the most incredible piece of Amiga software ever... the Sinclair Spectrum Emulator!

Oh you lucky Amiga owners! Amiganauts United has come up with a

# A PD firm has come up with a game that makes most full-priced software look more than a little shoddy.

disk containing three emulation packages The Sinclair Spectrum, Sinclair QL, and Commodore 64 can all be imitated in a very convincing tashion.

None of the emulators can accept input other than from the keyboard, and so loading Spectrum, C64 or QL software in impossible. Great fun however, can be it rate, retaining all of the BASIC

# HEPD COLUMN

Intrepid space explorer and PD detective Frank O'Connor checks out the latest and greatest in Public Domain software.

had mucking about with the operating systems of these ancient but revered machines.

Upon booting up the Spectrum emulator, the Amiga screen blanks out and glitches in exactly the same fashion as the old 48K Spectrum. It really is very convincing, and uses exactly the same typeface as the Speccy. Once loaded, your fingers are itching to re-explore the delights of prehistoric BASIC. The emulator is very accurate, too accurate in fact, even the complex and bizarre keystroke features of the Speccy have been retained.

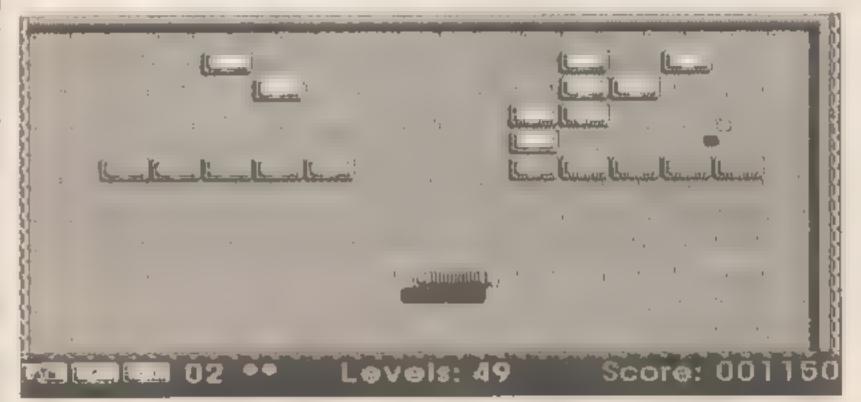
You cannot actually type a direct command into the machine. A difficult and annoying system is used, whereby the user presses for example "p", and the command PRINT automatically registers. The commands can be difficult to find on the Amiga keyboard, just try and find LET or GOSUB.

The C64 emulator is just as accu-

functions in that machine. The QL was a strange beast in the best of times, and that inherent strangeness has been retained. As far as I can see, all of the emulators look and act exactly the same as the machines they imitate. 🖼 of this is a great deal of fun, but limited by the fact that you cannot load software. Still, for the price of the disc, you do get three distinctly different BASIC systems. One point that should be stressed, to anyone who thinks that running 8-bit emulations on a 16-bit means speed, is that the emulators noted here run quite slowly, especially the Spectrum emulator.

# IS ARKANOID'S SUCCESSOR JUST A LOAD OF BOLOS?

in an unprecedented and utterly shocking move, a PD firm has come up with a



· Bolo: This pacey Arkanoid variant has smooth graphics, and stands head and shoulders above other games of this ilk.



# **OUR DISKS ARE** A SNAP AT THESE PRICES'

	3.5"	3.5"	3.5"	5.25"	5.25"	
	DS/DD	SONY	DS/HD	DS/DD	DS/HD	
25	9.99	12.99	22.99	7.99	13.99	
50	18.99	23.99	43.99	13.99	24.99	
100	32.99	41.99	64.99	22.99	47.99	
250	76.99	109.99	156.99	55.99	113.99	
500	148.99	191.99	303.99	109.99	213.99	
1000	284.99	357.99	599.99	214.99	399.99	
	-					



SUPPLIES LTD

# LOCKABLE DISC BOXES

40/50 x 3.5 - £3.49 50 x 5.25 - £3.49 80/100 x 3.5 - £3.99 100 x 5.25 -£3.99

THESE PRICES ONLY IF **PURCHASED WITH DISKS**  \*Our disks are fully guaranteed and come complete with labels or envelopes, labels and tabs.







ALL PRODUCTS SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY. ALL PRICES INCLUDE VAT PLEASE ADD £2.99 POSTAGE AND PACKING. E.O.E.

1st Floor, I-Mex Business Park, 42 Flaxley Road, Stechford, Birmingham B33 9HL

game that makes most full-priced software look more than a little shoddy. Bolo was sent my way by Gemini Shareware and is a very interesting variation on the Arkanoid/ Breakout theme.

The player controls a bat, with which he or she must deflect a ball, and in doing so, clear the screen of bricks. This will sound very familiar M Arkanoid fans, but it puts an original twist on a somewhat jaded theme. In Arkanoid, your bat is confined to the bottom of the screen. In Bolo, you can move the bat anywhere you please. The ball responds in a realistic fashion, and minute adjustments can be made to its flight path.

Because of the Bat's freedom of movement, it is possible to hit the ball with the base of the bat which provides some spectacular moves.

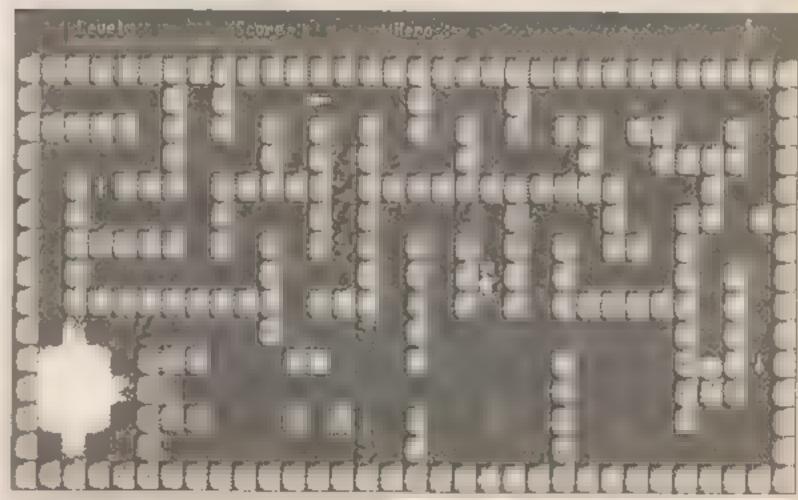
Those damned bricks act in various ways all of which are guaranteed to trustrate you, the symbols emblazoned in the centre of each brick indicate how it will react to contact with the ball.

Some explode, some cause adverse bounces, but almost all of the bricks will present you with major difficulties. There are some 50 screens ahead of the player, after which you must confront a very nasty guardian, who must be defeated to complete the game.

During the game, gravity can alter from screen to screen. Gravity varies from zero, to almost Jovian (Frank Fact Number 1: that's about 55 times greater than Earth) pressure. The ball seems to gain a lot of weight, and can act very strangely on contact with the bat. The game supports all three ST resolution modes, and this is a real boon to mono users. The graphics themselves are impressive bordering on outstanding. only the sound lets down the presentation side of things.

All in all, an excellent variation on the Arkanoid theme, and the biggest shock is that it isn't a full price game.

# RUNNING... MAN - Amiganuts - Amiga



Running: A game of a-mazingly explosive for as you sloughter monsters for under a fiver.

Also from Amiganuts is a nice little game called Running. Quite reminiscent of the PC Engine title Bomber Man, you control a jolly little sprite who's task is to clear the maze filled screen of monsters. The mazes are quite complex at times, and contain rock walls which have to be destroyed to allow progress through the maze.

The character you control can drop an unlimited supply of bombs, either to kill monsters, or demotish walls. The monsters are quite intelligent, and will avoid any bombs in their line of sight. They can be tricked however, and it is quite easy to lure them to their doom. Once a bomb

has been dropped, you have a couple of seconds to get out of the way before it detonates, killing anything in the small blast radius. Clear one screen, and it's off to the next, more difficult maze.

The poor quality of the graphics shouldn't put you off, because underneath the lack-lustre finish is a very addictive game. This title is doubly impressive because of the addition of a screen designer, which allows you to change the maze layout and the behaviour of the creatures who inhabit it.

All in all excellent fun, and one of the few essential PD games of recent times.

# WHERE TO GO THIS WEEK

the Amigania your manusqueeze innen ou should make every effort to speake reidudes at AMIGANUTS UNITED Look them up at Amiganuts United 1 69 Date Valley Road Hollybrook Southampton 501 60X | elephone 0703 785680

GEMIN SHAREWARE can offer some extremely sexy(S) PD and It you wanted grabithemiand delivour handstol is then /ouishould contact Gemini Shareware i warwick Avenue Slough SL2 1D). Tel. U/5 28183

# AMIGANUTS UNITED



169, DALE VALLEY ROAD, HOLLYBROOK, SOUTHAMPTON, SQ1 6QX MON - FRI: 10am to 6pm TEL: 0703 785680 AMIGANUTS ARE THE OFFICIAL UK DISTRIBUTORS OF THE T.BAG DISKS AND THE LATEST ISSUES ARE ALWAYS AVAILABLE FROM US FIRST



\*990: AMIGA C CLUB MANUAL V2 is now ready. Loads more info, source and help from Anders Bjerin. This new manual is on 4 disks. \*994: FOR THOSE AMY USERS that have an interest in religious matters. The complete New Testament is on this disk! \*996: The latest and easiest setkeys prog to redefine your keymaps. Plus a host of other utilities for icon design etc. \*1010: MAGNETIC FIELDS. New demo compilation. This includes the new Corria demo and the well presented Bobby the Ball demo ... \*1026: STAR TREK MEGADEMO. Another well presented two disk set from Tobias Richter, combining pics/animation and music. (1 Meg). 1031: GAME COMPILATION. Spacepoker, a good version of the poker-bandit, plus Running and Snakepit, both with full editing!... \*1033: This is a nicely presented printer utilities disk from the South West Amiga Group, includes a prog to download fonts.

\* 1036 AMIRASE PROFESSIONAL II. This excellent value for money database has to be seen to be appreciated. 1 mag required.

\* THE FANTASTIC OCTAMED. MIDI Compatible music utility with a full eight channels! Available from May 1st. Details of PRICE soon \*

FREE DISKS + FREE PROGS + FREE MEMBERSHIP - OVER A THOUSAND DETAILED PROGS PLUS SOME GAMES TO PLAY, ON THE MAIN CATALOGUE DISK. ONLY £1.00 ALL PRICES ARE INCLUSIVE OF POST AND PACKING. WE DO NOT ACCEPT CREDIT CARD ORDERS

THE 1991 UPDATE TO OUR MAIN CATALOGUE IS NOW READY FOR £1 00 (The update contains only the LATEST additions to the library). (NOTE! AFTER ITS INITIAL PURCHASE, THE 1991 UPDATED CATALOGUE WILL BE RE-COPIED, FREE!, IF YOU RETURN IT WITH AN ORDER FOR £15 OR MORE)

# Senior Project Manager

Salary: Based on experience Company Car Company Health Plan Pension Scheme and bonuses

> An experienced project manager is required to join our rapidly expanding Software Development Group. The successful applicant will have a broad knowledge of the computer games industry and direct experience of resource management and a proven ability to bring quality products to market on schedule.

Responsibilities will include managing programmers and technical staff working in our Sussex development studio as well as a network of freelance programmers, artists and development houses around the world.

Development experience of the Amiga, IBM PC and/or Nintendo is an advantage and a full driving licence and a desire to travel is required.



Software Development Group/

## Nintendo ® Programmers

Salary: Based on experience Company Health Plan Pension Scheme and schedule related bonuses

We have immediate positions for programmers to join our Software Development Group staff working on the leading edge of NES, Gameboy and 16 bit Nintendo software. Preference will be given to those applicants who already have Nintendo products published in Europe or the USA.

If an applicant does not have direct Nintendo experience, then a track record of quality and technically innovative products (especially 6502) processors) will be of particular interest.

# 16 bit Programmers & **Graphic Artists**

Salary: Based on experience Company Health Plan Pension Scheme and schedule related bonuses

Due to expansion of our European software development activities, Mindscape require experienced 68000 and 8086 programmers and graphic artists to join our award winning team.

Positions are available on either a freelance or salaried basis for people with a proven track record of success in the games or graphics programming industries.

Successful applicants will join a friendly team of people in an excellent working environment with a highly creative atmosphere.

you are interested in working on the leading edge of leisure software development in exciting fields such as Multimedia, CD-ROM, CDTV, 8 and 16 bit consoles, then please get in touch for an immediate interview.

For interviews for any of these positions please send a CV and a brief covering letter Phil Harrison Software Development Manager Mindscape International

The Coach House **Hooklands Estate** Scaynes Hill West Sussex RH17 7NG

> All applications will be treated in strictest confidence. Relocation allowances will be offered to new staff joining our in-house team.

Mindscape international is a subsidiary of the Software Toolworks, one of America's largest publishers of entertainment and productivity software for personal computers and consoles.

# Z80 / 6502 / 8086 Programmers



We are currently looking for new technical staff to work alongside an experienced programming team on the latest leading-edge products.

Successful applicants will be expected to demonstrate a sufficient level of experience in their chosen field.

So, if you want to work in ■ friendly environment with a competitive salary either apply in writing to: Richard Underhill, Arc Developments,

Suite 13, Bridge House, Bridge Street, Walsall, WS1 1SE

or phone 0922 31129 and ask for Rich for an informal discussion

# DO YOU WANT TO **BECOME A** PROGRAMMER?



Established 1968

Move across to the rewarding world of IT

We have a series of short and long term training programmers in Computing and Information Processing.

C & G 424/425 Certificate in applications programming.

C & G 418 Computer Programming & Information Processing.

Evening courses in DBASE, WP, Spreadsheet Analysis.

Evening courses in Pascal, BASIC & COBOL.

Contact Central London College on 071-580 4596...

TRAINING FOR YOUR FUTURE





# PROGRAMMERS AND GRAPHIC ARTISTS

Zeppelin Games Limited is currently launching a recruitment campaign for freelance programmers and graphic artists. Expansion of the company has meant that there is a large number of both Budget and Full Price projects ready for immediate development.

To those people whose work comes up to our exacting standards, we guarantee to offer you the best payment terms, conditions and back-up of any software house.

If we have not heard from you in the past two months, please send a brief letter and demo on any computer format to:-

Gareth Briggs
Head of Development
Zeppelin Games Limited
PO Box 17
Houghton-le-Spring
Durham
DH4 6JP

# A NEW KIND OF PROGRAMMING

(not just vectors)

Following the successes of products like Team Yankee, O.D.E. now needs to expand its development base.

We are looking for programmers who are conversant in Z80, 6502, 8006, 68000 or console systems to work on exciting new products.

The difference at O.D.E. is that if we think you are up to the job then we will listen to your needs, and adapt the position to suit you. We are able to offer the right people flexible working conditions (in-house/in own-house), good payment terms, real royalties and excellent support.

Contact;

Rik Yapp

O.D.E.

78 Church Way

Iffley, Oxford OX4 4EF

Tel: 0865 747034

# ASSEMBLY LANGUAGE PROGRAMMERS

REQUIRED FOR ORIGINAL AND CONVERSION WORK

WE ARE LOOKING FOR PEOPLE TO WORK FREELANCE FROM HOME, ON ALL THE POPULAR COMPUTER AND CONSOLE FORMATS.

LONG TERM CONTRACTS AVAILABLE IF REQUIRED.

PLEASE APPLY TO MARIA TAYLOR

CREATIVE MATERIALS LIMITED 28 CHURCH LANE, PRESTWICH MANCHESTER M25 5AJ

Please Note: We cannot deal with telephone enquiries relating to this advert.

# EXPRESS ON-LINE

# Our comprehensive listings service this week featuring User Groups from A to J plus new entries.

3JJ.BBC-B PD – From just 14p per disk. Send SAE to BBC-B PD, 21 Whitehorse Street, Hereford, HR4 OEP. Send 50p plus disk for sample and catalogue. Send 20p for three page catalogue.

ABC AMIGA BEGINNERS' CLUB – PD library review. More info in beginners pack. Send £1.50 to lan, 110 Whitehill Park, Limavady, Co Londonderry, N.Ireland, 8T49 0QG. Edi: 0504 765174

ACORN 8-BIT PD SOFTWARE - Write to Alan Blundell, BBC PD, 18 Carlton Close, Blackrod, Bolton, BL6 5DL. Send SAE for £1.50 for sampler disk

ACORN ARCHIMEDES.RISC USER 117
Hatfield Road, St Albans, Herts

ACORN ARCHIMEDES Archive, Mile End Road, Norwich NR4 70

AMATEUR RADIO (CBM) - Simon Lewis GM4PLM Commodore Radio Usrs Group, 69 Irvine Drive, North Clippens, Linwood, Paisley

AMIDOS AMIGA PD SWAP CLUB – Send blank disk for details. No enlistment fee. Send SAE for prompt reply to 25 Salamanca Road, Cheltenham, Glos GL52 5LA.

AMIDOS AMIGA PD SWAP CLUB – send blank disk with an SAE or £1 for a starter catalogueand details on how to join. A prompt reply given to all members and new applicants.

AMIGA AND PC PD CLUB - Contact Prestel MBX 011115474 or send stamp to 48 King William Drive, Cheltenham, Glos, GL53 7RP

AMIGA CHEAT DISK FANZINE - JS Smith, 45 Maplecroft Crescent, Sheffield ## 1DN.

AMIGA DISK MAG —with a new style with over 100 pages of news, reviews, art, music, and PD on two disks. Send £3 m Paul Harthen, 43 Boyds Walk, Dukinfield, Cheshire, SK16 4AX

AMIGA HELP CENTRE - A group to help novices For CLI help disk and registration send £10 to Simdev, 29 Avon Square, Hemel Hempstead, Herts.

AMIGA HELPLINE SERVICES - Free club for young and old Send SAE toG Keenan, 21 Skirsa Place, Glasgow, G23 3EE

AMIGA LA FANZINE - Only £2 including membership. Write to L Stacey, 3 Norfolk Close, Bewbush, Crawley, West Sussex, RH11 8GJ

AMIGA LOST GAMES CLUB - We are setting up a gropu to program Amiga games and send out demos to the different publishers so we need designers, coders, artists and musicians for the Amiga. Ring 0782 266964.

AMIGA OWNERS – PD software to swap and sell. New library for Irish Amiga owners. Phone John at Limerick (061) 312257 or write to 21 Lower Careys Road, Limerick, Ireland.

AMIGA PD - over 600 disks. Only 75p each.
For catalogue send SAE and 50p m Mark Knight,
Mayfield Crescent, Patcham, Brighton,
Sussex, 8N1 8HQ or tel 0273 557113. Special
bulk prices on orders over 80 disks

AMIGA PD - Software for sale. If you live in South Wales then look no further. Disks only £1.50 inc P&P. Write now # SWAPD. 38 Syon Parlk Close, St Mellons, Cardiff. All the latest in demo, music, jubs etc.

AMIGA PUBLIC DOMAIN - only 85p per disk. Send SAE for details to Paul Brown, 14 Elmfield Road, Rossington, Doncaster, DN11 OBP or call 0302 865148 after 7pm.

AMIGA PUBLIC DOMAIN - JJ Meachen, 59 Lee Road, Harwich, Essex, CO12 3SB.

AMIGA PUBLIC DOMAIN USER GROUP -Ashtey Tarver, 5 Saunders House, Binswood Avenue, Lemmington Spa, Warks, CV32 5RZ

AMIGA SHAREWARE - Send SAE for lists to 4 Sedgewick Close, Atherton, M29 9EF

AMIGA SOFTWARE EXCHANGE SERVICE – small friendly swap service. Good selection. SAE for information to 13 Bournville Lane, Birmingham B30 2JY. Free PD swaps. Telephone 021 4597576.

THE AMIGA TEAM - A group in help novices. Help given in programming - Assembly, BASIC, C, Logo, Pascal and CLI For registration and introduction pack send £10 to 11 Beech Grove, Northallerton, North Yorks, DL6 1JY

AMIGANAUTS Disk Fanzine – Two disks, issue one out now. Only £2.50. Loads of PD demos, reviews etc. SAE for into or cheques/POs M N Gilling, 1 France Furlong, Great Linford, Milton Keynes, Bucks, MK14 5EM.

AMOS/STOS PD LIBRARY – send SAE for a catalogue to 25 Park Road, Wigan, WN6 7AA. Telephone 0942 495261 before 6pm.

AMSTRAD BUSINESS USERS - Amstrad Professional User Club, enterprise House PO BOX 10, Roper St, Pallion Ind Estate, Sunderland SR4 6SN, Tel 091-510 8787

AMSTRAD CPC USERS - Tony Baker, United Amstrad User Gp, 26 Uplands Crescent, Fareham, Hants PO16 7JY, Tel 0329 234 291

AMSTRAD CPC HOME USERS - Steve Williams, WACCI, 9 South Close, Twickenham TW2 5JE, Tel 081-898 1090

AMSTRAD LOCAL GROUPS - Amstrad Groups Federation, 4 Sutton Road, Gorton, Manchester

AMSTRAD PC SOFTWARE - Colin Smith, Colbar, 10 Penwood cl, Westbury, Wilts BA13 AMSTRAD PCW - PD software; Bob Ellis Tel 0432 761860 Queries: David Axford Tel 0428 56438

AMSTRAD PCW - Bob Ellis 'Rowan' 100 St Peters Close, Moreton-on-Lugg, Hereford HR4 8DW 0432 761 860

AMSTRAD 1512/1640/PPC - PC Independent User Group, The Computer Advice Centre 87 High Street, Tonbridge, Kent. Phone 0732 771 512

AMSTRAD BUSINESS USERS – Amstrad Professional User Club, Enterprise House PO BOX 10, Roper Street, Pallion Industrial Estate, Sunderland SR4 6SN, Telephone 091-510 8787

APPLE II USERS - tel 051 9284142.

APPLE MACINTOSH. John Lewis, Macintosh user group, Macintosh House, 11 South Parade, Summertown, Oxford OX2 7JL

APPLE SYSTEMS - Irene Flaxman, Apple 2000, PO Box 3, Liverpool L21 8PY.

ARABIC COMPUTING - Rich Lackey, Arabits, 9 Bellview road, Worthing, West Sussex BN13

ARCHIE PD - for 2.4Mb sampler pack send three E Format disks, SAE and £1 to Archie PD, Dept NCE, Highover, Udimore, Near RYE, East Sussex

ASHTON TATE SOFTWARE - Silvia Robinson, Baseline, Ashton Tate, 1 Bath Road, Maidenhead, Berts 0628 33123. Prestel page 43221

ASTAC - a new Atari ST and console mag. For details send an SAE to Astac, 383A Drayton High Road, Hellesdon, Norwich, Norfolk, NR6 5BG.

ASTMATIC AARDVARK PD FACTORY – the best for PC, and Amiga Send £1 for a demo disk to Highover, Udimore, Nr Rye, East Sussex, TN31 6BG.

ATARI ALL MACHINES - Colin Hunt, BaPAUG, Wimborne Road, Oakdale, Oorset BH15 3EF

ATARI AND ST PC EMULATOR SUPPORT CLUB - SAE III 153 Parrock Street, Gravesend, Kent, DA123ER

ATARI CONNECTION PD - High quality disks only Only 99p per disk. Wide selection - utils, demos, games etc. For disk catalogue send disk to ACPDL, 72 Lancelot Avenue, Strood, Kent

ATARI PORTFOLIO - D Gilpin, Atari Portfolio User Group, 84 Cambridge Avenue, Gidea Park, Romford RM2 6QU. 0708 730764

ATARI ST DIY HOISK BUILDERS CLUB – information on how to build from scratch an HDisk system for your ST. Help given on what you'll need and how to connect it all up. Call 0495 272092

# THIS WEEK'S NEW ARRIVALS ON-LINE

Burman's PD - second hand originals for the Amiga. Games like Strider 2, Powermonger, Golden Axe plus many more. Write to Burman's PD, 41 Pinner Park Gardens, Harrow, Middlesex, HA2 6LQ.

SEGA MEGEDRIVE CARTRIDGE CLUB- Large selection of games. We swap, buy and sell, new and old cartridges. Send SAE for latest list to 28 Elmfield Road, Hyde Park, Doncaster, S Yorks ON1 2BA. Tel 0302 344529.

MG SOFTWARE - Atari ST Public Domain, only 65p and £1.Send an SAE for a cartridge to MG Software, Cornerways, Beckingham Street, Tolleshunt Major, Essex CM9 8LL.

STAR PD - Software for the Atari ST/STE.
Hundreds of disks available. Send blank disk
and SAE for free PD and disk based
catalogue to Star PD, 1 Solva Road, Clase,
Swansea, SA6 7NX.

HALL OF IMAGES PD - PD, clip art, ST specialists. Scannin service and Atari PD (fun and serious). Demo disk £2 with £2 off your first order, if you need clip art we have it. Write to 5 Allington Drive, Barrs Court, Warmley, Bristol BS15 7AS. Tel 0272 607254. Cheques payable to \$ Hall.

ST CHURCH USER GROUP - Disk-based magazine and mutual support forum for christian ST users. Details from the Reverend Joe Clemson. Tel 091-487 6944.

STEVE'S AMIGA PD - Amazing Amiga PD catalogue. See Demos, usable virus killer.

Send £1 plus SAE (9x4 minimum) to Mr S

Fitch, 1 The Croft, Welwyn Garden City, Herts, AL7 4JY. All PD 75p.

ACORN ARCHIMEDES GROUP - meets every month. Ring Az on 0633 216500 (work) 0633 220824 (home), Amiga owners also welcome.

POTENTIAL PD - for the Atari ST to sell and swap. Send SAE and blank disk or 80p to Potential PD, Helenville, School Road, Coldingham, Berwickshire, TD14 5NS.

AMSTRAD 6128 - cherche correspondant perfant Frangais pour echange achete revues Amstard computer user ou autres avec listings. Roger Lorrain, 23 Route de Fretterans, 71270 Pierre De Bresse, France. Au revoir!

ATARI REPAIR AND UPGRADE CLUB - Help givern on repairs. Dead, duff, hit with hammer jobs and botched memory upgrades. Ring Mark on 0495 272358.

ADRENALIN PDL - for the Amiga. Demos copied on Sony ASDD disks, £2.20. High quality disks £1.20. Many Public Domain disks in stock. Send SAE for catalogue to 7 St James Close, Kettering, Northants NN15 5HB.

TYPECAST PDL - Catalogue issue two out now. PD, DTP, WP, art and clip art for Atari ST/STE. No games. Send disk and SAE for catalogue to 31 Hartfield Crescent, West Wickham, Kent BR4 9DW.

SPANDEFANG SOFTWARE - 68000 and coders magazine. For free first issue send stamped addressed envelope and blank Atari ST disk to 4 Cambridge Terrace, Harrogate, N Yorks HG1 1PA.

SOFTWARE EXCHANGE SERVICE - Buy, sell, swap games (mostly Amiga) SAE for info to 13 Bourneville Lane, Birmingham, B30 25Y. New Telephone number: 021-459 757. Free PD swaps.

AMIGA PD WANTED - I am currently setting up a library, if you have any good PD to contribute please send it to C Waite, 22 Merryfields Avenue, Hockley, Essex. Every contributor will receive free orders from our library.

LYNX USER GROUP - Send a stamped addressed envelope for newsletter which includes reviews to Mr Areid, Croftway, Selby, N Yorks YOS 9DD.

WEST COUNTRY PDL - ST Public Domain and shareware. Large library. Send stamped addressed envelope and blank disk or £1 for catalogue to PO Box 2, Lynton, North Devon, EX35 5BS.

TOTAL PD – for the ST. Send SAE for free catalogue to Total PD. 27 Stanmer Villas, Brighton, East Sussex, BN1 7HQ. We buy, sell and swap PD.

GUNNING PD - For the ST. All disks only £1 each. Send three first class stamps for disk catalogue to 47 Auchingane. The Tryst, Edinburgh, EH10 7HX.

AMIGA PD - We are demo creators sailing the best PD at £1.50 inc P&P. Send SAE for free catalogue to 11 Macklin Road, Salisbury, Wiltshire, SP2 7HB. Tel 0722 326057.

MEGA PD - Amiga Public Domain for only £1 per disk. Blank disks 50p each. Send SAE now for free catalogue to Mega PD, 29 Nuthatch Close, Billericay, Essex CM11 2PQ. Tel: 0277 658435.

ATARI ST OWNERS - public domain from £1.50 per disk. Write to22 Merryfields Avenue, Hockley, Essex, SS5 5AL

ATARI ST SOFTWARE - write to 16/32 PD fibrary 35 Northcote Road, Strood, Kent ME2 2DH

dent

787

ide.

ATARI ST - Paul Glover, The ST Club, 9 Setton Place, 49 Stoney Street, Nothingham NG1 1LX. 0602 410241

ATARI ST demos/PD wanted. If you can write demos or want exclusive titles. Write to ST Demos, 8 Bertelin Road, Beaconside, Stafford, ST16.

ATARI ST/STE HELPLINE - We can scan, digitalise and provide loads of clip art. SAE to Nist 53, Lenaghan Park, Belfast, BT8 4J8

ATARI ST USERS - ELECTRON, 2 disks plus 40 page mag. Reviews, articles, games, advice, electronics, software library (PD 50p each) and Chess. £3.50 inc membership (refundable). Andrew Betts, The Mount, Wood Lane, Gallowstree Common, Reading, Berks, RG4 98G

ATARI ST USERS ASSOCIATION - provides support for all Atari ST/E users. Help and advice given. Quarterly club magazine and disk, Also exclusive PD library for members. For further information write to ASTUA, IIII Poplar Close, Biggleswade, Beds, SG18 oEW

BBC MICRO - BEEBUG, 117 Hatfield Road, St. Albans, Herts AL1 4JS, 0727 40303

BASIC PROGRAMMERS' GUIDE - for all BASIC programmers. Phone Andy on 081-648 4326.

BATPUG - Turbo Pascal user group also open to other PC Pascal programmers. Costs £10 per year. Write to 12 Clegg Avenue, Cleveley's, Blackpool, FYS 9BJ. Send an SAE for sample.

BURMAN'S PD - Amiga PD for 40p. For a catalogue on disk, a few demos and a game send a stamp and disk to Burman's PD, 41 Pinner Park Gardens, Harrow, Middlesex, MA2

BYTER PD - For list and latest titles of Atan ST and Amiga PD write to Byter PD, PO Box 182, London, SE6 1B2

C64 PD CLUB - E Masaba, 84 Garmoyle Rd, Liverpool L15 3JH

C64 PUBLIC DOMAIN - Phoenix, 64 Plumberow, Basildon, Essex

C LANGUAGE - Bi-monthly newsletter, C source library and BBS. £14pa. Contact Francis Glassborow, 64 Southfield Road, Oxford, OX4

C USERS GROUP - Francis Glassborow, 64 Southfield Road, Oxfoed OX4 1PA. For everyone interested in the C and C++ programming languages. Publishes a bi-monthly newsletter.

CAMBRIDGE Z88 - Roy Woodward, Z88 Owners' Club, 68 Wellington St, Long Eaton, Nottingham

CD ROM - UK CD-ROM User Group, High Wings, Salem, Treforys, Abertawe 0792 844 370

CHESHIRE 16-BIT USERS CLUB - Amiga, ST, PC, Arc at Radley Common community centre, off Poplars Avenue, Orford, Warrington, Friday nights. All welcome. £1 admission.

CHESS COMPUTER PROGRAMMERS and interested players send an SAE to Steve Roe, 25 Nene Walk, Worksop, Notts or ring BBS 0909 479080

CHOICE - on-line help. Tel 0308 23224

CHESHIRE NIMBUS USER GROUP - Geoff Nelder, Queens Park High School, Handbridge, Chester

CHURCH ADMINISTRATION - Rev Stoker Wilson, Church Computer User Group, St John's Vicarage, Greenside, Ryton, Tyne & Wear NE40 4AA. 091-413 8281

CID (Computers and Integration for the Disabled) is a registered charity. Write to Gordon, Chelsea Road, Inverurie, Aberdeenshire, ABS 9QZ or tel 0467 24202

CLERGY/MEDICAL EDUCATION - Mr T Jones, FREE-ED Shareware/PD 85 Stoke road, Taunton, Somerset TA1 3EL. Tel 0823 321 481

CLUB AMIGA answers your questions on software and hardware on its 24 hour helpline. Join now. Send £5 to Club Amiga, 5 Bowes Lea, Shiney Row, Tyne and Wear DH4 4PP.

CMS PD LIBRARY - Sam Coupé PD software for only £1.50 a disk. Send an SAE and a blank disk (or 70p) for a disk catalogue IM CMS PDL, Dept NCE, 70 Donald Drive, Chadwell Heath Romford, Essex, RM6 50U.

COBOL LANGUAGE - Allen Reavie 22 Mourneyiew St. Portadown, Northern Ireland, BT62 3AW

COLECO ADAM - Keith Mamer, UKAS 33 Homer Road, Croydon CXRO 7S8

COMMODORE ALL MICROS - Jack Cohen, ICPUG, PO Box 1309, Landon, N3 2UT, Tel 081-346 0050 after 6pm

COMMODORE 64 CLUB has been on the go for the last five months and new members are welcome. For more details send an SAE to The C64 Club, 20 Finlow Place, Dundee, Scotland

COMMODORE AMIGA - UK Amiga Users Group, Contact 144 Charles Street, Leicester LE2 00D. Telephone 0533 510066 voice: 0533 517615

COMMUNITY COMPUTING - Community Computing Network 2nd Floor, 35 Pink Lane, Newcastle, NET 5DW, Tel 091-261 0317

COMPUCORP. Compucorp University users group c/o Compucorp, Cunningham House. Westfield Lan, Kenton, Middx

COMPUNET - write to Independent Compunet Club, 148 Furzehill road, Boreham Wood Herts, WD5 2DX

COMPUTER LYNX - Amiga disk magazine. Only £1.50 plus 50p p&p. Huge range of PD from £1 per disk. Write to 187 Perrysfield Road. Cheshunt, Herts, EN8 OTL.

CONFERENCING - Compulink, suite 2, The Scantuary, 23 Oakhill Grove, Surbiton, Surrey KT6 6DU Voice 081-390 8446. CIX 8BS 081-

CPM & MSDOS Users Group - 42 Birkbeck Road, Wimbeldon, London SW19 9NZ, Tel 081-543 0824

CRYPTOGRAPHY & CODES - Mike Barlow, American Cryptogram Association 5052 Chestnut Avenue, Pierrefonds, Quebec HBZ 2A8

DATAEASE USER GROUP - High-Tech House, 10 Blackfnars Street, Norwich, NR3 1SJF

DATA PD LIBRARY for Amstrad CPC users. Send SAE, tape/disk and 50p M Kingsmill 202 Park Street Lane, Park St. St Albans, Herts AL2 2AQ

DIGITAL PO LIBRARY - for the Amiga, All disks priced at only £1. Write for a full catalogue to Digital Pd, 20 Vere Road, Hillsborough, Sheffield S6 1SB.

THE DISK issue two for Amiga users. Packed with PD including Power packer, Superecho, Game, Textra, Poipoi, Demo, Iconmaker and loads more. Send £1 to S Lord, 6 Stubbing Brink, Hebden Bridge, West Yorkshire, HX7 6LR. DISABLED - Jeff Hughes, Special Needs User Group, 39 Eccleston Gardens, St Helens WA10 3BJ 0744 24608

DMS ATARIPDL - Quality public domain for ST/STEs. From 90p per disk For disk-based catalogue send 50p and SAE or blank disk and SAE to DMS ATAR! PDL, C/O S Klee, 56 Abbey Road, Strood, Kent, ME2 3QB

**DRAGON** - Paul Grade, National Dragon Users Group, 6 Navarino Road, Worthing, Sussex or tel-0903 207585

ECONET - Michael Ryan, Econet User Gp. Balkeene Cottage, Eassie by Forfar, Angus DD8 I SR

EDUCATION - Charles Shannon, TECUG, 35 Wellington St, Gravesend, Kent DA12 LIG. Tel 0474 567 931 EIGHT-BIT BACK-UP 8-bit user group for all

25p plus SAE, to: 8-bit back-up, 1 Northolme Close, Grays, Essex, EINSTEIN PD - Amiga PD all disks only 80p for the latest list send SAE The Forge, Pipers

EINSTEIN - Graham Bettany, UKEUG 80 Dales Road, Ipswich (P1 4JR)

Lane, Godmanchseter, Cambs, PE18 8JN

EINSTEIN PD USER GROUP - Help and advice for all Einstein users. Over 100 disks of PD software Send SAE to SW Knowles, 23 Howldsworth Rise, Arnold, Nottingham, NG5 8HZ

ELECTRIX PDL - CBM and Amiga PD for £1 a disk plus 40 P&P. All the latest PD at stock. For a catalogue disk with demo and music write tio-Electrix Amiga PD, 68 Donald Drive, Chadewell Heath, Romford, Essex, RM6 5DU

**ELMSOFT PUBLIC DOMAIN SERVICE for the** ST any weekend at Camden canal market, Haven Street, London

EMULATE. For Amiga, Amex. Monthly newsletter. Write to Pat 12b Northbrooks. Halrow, N Essex

ENTERPRISE - William Creaser, & Provident Street, Shaw, Oldham, DL2 8AQ, Independent Enterprise User group, Tel 0705 881382

ENTERPRISE I Im Box, Independent Enterprise User Group, 50 Holdenhurst Avenue, Finchley, London N12 OHX, Tel 081-346 8032

ENET (like Econet) - T K Boyd, Enet (Amcom) User Gp. Seaford Cottage, Petworth, West Sussex

EXMOORE SOFTWARE - Queen Street, Lynton, III Devon EX 35 6AQ

FIND YOUR LOCAL CLUB - British Association of Computer Clubs. Database of all user groups in the UK. Banc y rhosyn, 14 Bron Y Glyn, Bronwydd Arms, Carmarthen SA33 6JB.

FORTH Language - Douglas Neale, FIG (FORTH) Interest Group) UK, 58 Woodland Way, Morden, Surrey SM4 4DS

FRACTALS/CHAOS THEORY - Andy Lunness, 69 Bronte Avenue, Bury, Lancs BL9 9RN. Telephone 061-764 6469

GARFIELD'S PD - Amiga PD software to swap or for sale. Send 99p for disk catalogue to 40 Penrhos Cres Rumney, Cardiff, South Wales

GENEALOGISTS - Computer Group, Society of Genealogists, 14 Charterhouse Buildings, London EC1M 7BA, 071-251 8799

GENERAL AMIGA - disk based magazine for the Amiga. Only £1.50 per issue. Send order to 19 Earn Court, Alloa, Clacks, FK10 1PT

GENERAL HOME MICROS - Steve Winter, Chic Computer Club, PO BOX 121, Gerrards Cross, Bucks SL9 9JP 0753 884473

GEOS USER GROUP - for C64 and 128 owners. Disk based magazine, Send blank disk to GUG (UK) 110 Deansway, Woodloes Park, Warwick CV34 500

GUG (UK) - GEOS Liser Group for C64/128. Also non GEOS PD library. Send disk and return postage for GEOS, SAE for non-GEOS to GUG (UK), 110 Deansway, Woodloes Park, Warwick CV34 5D0

GUNNING PD PD - Atari ST PD library Disks only £1 each and supplied on branded disks. Send three first class stamps to 47 Auchingane, The Tryst, Edinburgh, EH10 7HX for disk catalogue, Wow!

GROUND FLOOR USER GROUP - support for all serious users of PC, ST, Amiga and PCW. Meets monthly in Calderdale, West Yorkshire Further information from Jae on 0422 844991 days or 0422 845789 eves.

GUAGE - Martin Houston CUG (UK) Houston Fechnology Ltd, 14 Arden Oak Rd, Sheldon Birmingham BS26 3LX, Telephone 021-722

HOUSING ASSOCIATIONS Caroline Maries. Micro Users Ltd, Beaver Housing society, 23 Lewisham High Street, London SE13, Tel 081 318 1126

HEALTH WORKERS - Sue Mckendrick, Healthlink, 164 Windsor Rd, Ashton in Makerheld, Wigan WN4 9ES. Voice: 0942 712 385

IBM PC USER GROUP - PO BOX 360 Harrow HA1 4LQ.081-863 1191 8BS 081-863 5646

INERTIA ADVENTURES - A ray of light in the dark cavern of the text adventure. Do you dare to enter this saga? Proceed by phoning 0265 51851 for details.

JOEL'S PD GAMES - for Amiga users, PD disks only 90p each. For a catalogue send an SAE to Joel's PD Games, 389 Scalby Road, Newby, Scarborough, North Yorkshire, YO12 6TG Please add a blank disk.

JOMAC USER GROUP - Spectrum and Amiga tips and pokes sent every month. Write with SAE to Jomac's, Filey Grove, Rhodes Street, Hull

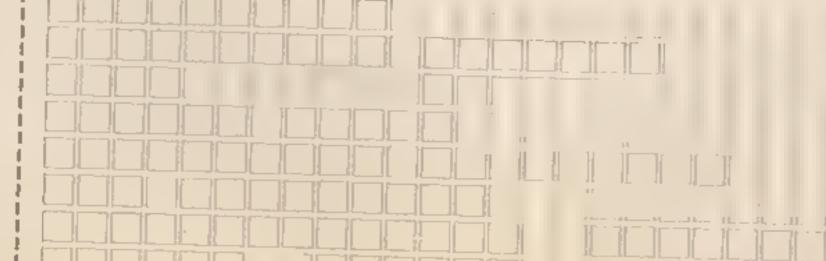
JUPITER ACE - John Charter, Jupiter Ace Forth User Group, 17 Spring Wood Close, Dunston, Chesterfield \$41 8BS. Tel 0246 237555

# Get yourself listed!

it you run a user group or	bulletin board, don't miss	out - fill in this form	for a free entry and son
it to Express On-line, 30 N	lonmouth Street, Bath BA1	2BW.	The state of the self

in to express outline, so wouldouth street, Bath	BAT 2BW.
Name of group/BBS (delete as applicable)	

- Write your ad in black capitals on the grid below using one letter per box.
- Also, please let us know if any of the information is out of date.



# Tim Smiths 5 00 0 TO TO FOR FOR LINE Write to 30 Monmouth Street, Both BA1 2BW Write to 30 Monmouth Street, Bath BA1 2BW (The page that killed Bambi)

Crazed PR possé molest Mac in Manson-like frenzy

# DRUG FIENDS "DID" MY COMPUTER

won imakelany commension the new title of this once proud spread Suffice it to say that unless radical action is taken by the powers that be publishing wise, then a down scaling. The Fold, centre-wise could be a leasible outcome scenario Aside from that it speen good week A rather shazzy Amiga demo came flooding and he office is notting up for the Summer. all the Macs have melted, and Grimley, the officer abbit has fallen Hoverayan

THAT PR SPEAK IN FULL

We've all heard it, or read it, the lingo of the public relations person. But just what does it mean? Here's a few possible explanations:

"We feel that this product range offers maximisations of the upside via creative throughput and excellent artisanship build-wise".

means.

"It's quite a good game/spreadsheet" and this

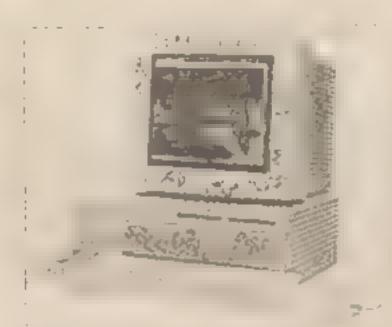
"I can take on-board what you're saying but feel that your thought processes may have hit an unproductive area m the positive interface scenario".

means

"I won't take no for an answer"

Sources close to a major industry figure revealed this week that an innocent Apple Macintosh suffered an horrendous attack in the hands of drug crazed software house public relations and marketing people.

They came me their hordes yelling: "We'll re-organsise your administrative throughput!" and "Come and touch base If you consider yourself to have optimised your tactile quality!!!". "It was terrifying, horrible, I couldn't believe that these people were allowed to exist in a civilised society", said the Mac's owner, Mrs Joyce Pitiful-Filmsy of Oldham. 'They were all wearing shiny doublebreasted suits and carrying personal organisers. One of them came up se me and pushed his thing, his organiser, into my face. He had obviously been taking drugs. He screamed: 'Freeeeeebie Innit?



The Apple Macintosh following the attack.

Given it wasn't i. Now get your over-all margins around what is probably the most prestigious sales opportunity this decade', then he passed out".

Forensic scientists who attended the scene of the crime at a later date confirmed that the gang had been indulging in sessions in the highly dangerous LashingotLager narcotic.

"The women were even worse. They were all wearing 40-Inch stack heels, and low cut dresses. They tried to sell my husband, God rest him, on the idea that their games would change the way in which he visualised his death-style scenario. They winked at him and hung their arms around his shoulders.

I wouldn't have minded but he was laid out in the parlour, it was his wake you see, he'd been stone cold stiffed for a week after an accident with an Amiga back-up device ".

# Mac the knifed

Then they saw the Apple MacIntosh,. "They went mad!", said Mrs Pitiful-Filmsy. They were screaming abuse, at least I think it was abuse, I couldn't really make sense of their lingo, it went something like: "Where's the benefits? Where's the margins?" Then they started screaming: "Can't sell!! Won't sell! Can't sell won't sell!! Can't sell!! Won't sell!!"

One of them pulled out a can of blue paint and wrote dreadful obscenities on it. Their leader who called herself 'Group Sales Director with targetting to maximise upside product awareness (Electro Digital Division)' knocked me out with her stilletoes while whispering the following cryptic message: "There's no games for this machine. It won't ever sell"



• Mr A Pitiful-Flimsy at his own wake. PR people tried to sell him 'post-death' games!



the structure and the syntax of the language are very similar to C, but more features have been added. You can take III C program, recompife it in C++ and it will run, but it is the extras that are the reason for using C++. Most of the extras give you Object-oriented programming, but some of them are simply improvements, such as the introduction of the keyword const

for constants, instead of the macro define. Object-oriented programming, OOPs for short, is based around the notions of objects and classes. An object is anything that you can think of as a "thing" and similar objects are part of the same class. If you can think of a data structure or a procedure as an object, whether it is a window on the screen or an order in a stock control system, then there are probably different sorts of that object: graphics and text windows or overdue orders and unpaid orders, for example. These are both in the class of orders, but they are different objects. A particular order, number 5245 for example, will be an instance of one of these objects. It will inherit the characteristics of the class and object from which it is derived. If an object is derived from more than one class, it can inherit characteristics from multiple classes.

Objects and classes are not just convenient places to store related values. Each object contains the code necessary to perform all the procedures needed for the data in the object. A text window object will store any text that is typed into the window, but it also contains the code to open and close the window and display the contents on screen. The product orders would contain code to calculate the VAT on prices and print out invoices. Each of these procedures is known as a method of the class.

# HOW WORKS IN C++

A class in C++ is a user-defined data type with fields to hold values. The concept is the same as the struct in C, but the keyword is class. Any data object that needs more structure than an array can be defined as a class in the same way as a struct and an instance of a class is an object. What you are doing is to abstract the overall shape of the data that you want to work with, call this a class and call individual members of the class objects.

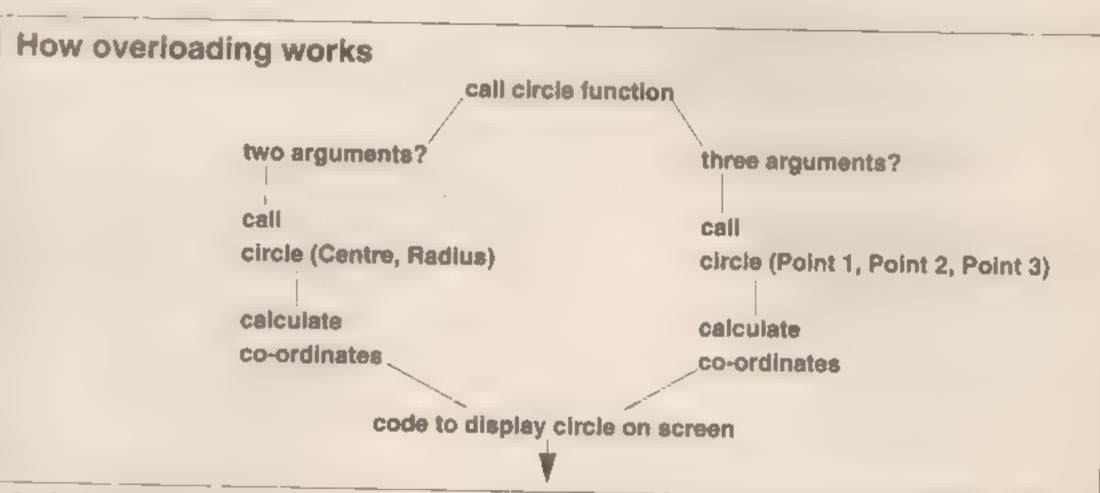
The values stored in the class are members of the class and you can choose whether these values are defined as public, and can be accessed from outside the class, or private and for use inside the class only. Using private class members means that you can hide information in one part of the program, usually in order to simplify your code. If the only value stored in the class of client accounts that the class of orders can see is the client number, then you do not need any code to sort through the other values stored there to retrieve the

# Two ways of defining a circle radius centre point one point three

 Overloading can be used when two different functions produce the same results, eg, drawing a circle can be specified with the co-ordinates of the centre and length of the radius, or three points on a circumference.

# C++ GETS OBJECTIVE

If it's extra features you're after then C++ is talking your kind of language. Mary Branscombe shows you how to turn C into C++ for the best of Object-oriented programming.



· Overloading allows you to use a single name for different functions, cutting down on unnecessary coding.

client number.

The advantage of using a class rather than a struct is that struct can only contain values stored in variables, but the members of a class can be functions as well as values. These member functions are the methods of the class. A member function is declared within the relevant class and it must be public. Because it is within the scope of the class, it can access the private data members of the class. If one class needs to check any values held as private data in another class, this can be done by invoking a member function in the second class to check the private data and the member functions must be public so that they can be invoked by other classes in this way.

# OVERLOAD

Many operations can be applied to a number of data types. If you are writing a function to calculate the average of several numbers, the function will be performing the same calculations in each case but you will need different functions to deal with integers and floating point numbers, for example. This results in unnecessary code and it is very tedious to have to think up suitable names for the versions that deal with integers and floating point numbers: using names like average\_int and average\_float can make your code seem rather messy. It would be much easier to use a single name for both functions and use type checking of the parameters to work out which function is needed in a particular case and overloading allows you to do this. You simply define the function as many times as necessary, with the same name.

Overloading can also be used when two functions produce the same results, even if they do this a different ways. If you want to draw a circle on the screen, for

example, you can specify the size and position of the circle by giving the co-ordinates of the centre and the length of the radius, or you can specify three points on the circumference. Both methods will produce a circle, but they are different functions. With overloading, there is no need to confuse the issue by trying to remember which function is circle1 and which is circle2. You call the circle function with either two or three arguments and the compiler decides which function definition is needed.

It is important to use this feature carefully or your code can become unintelligible. Function names should only be overloaded when the functions involved are closely related and perform very similar tasks and when different function definitions can be distinguished by the arguments alone. If there is any ambiguity between different definitions and the compiler cannot work out which versions of the function should be called at a particular time, then it will not compile the code.

Unlike Ada, one of the few other languages to provide overloading, in C++, the type of the argument returned by a function definition does not determine which definition of an overloaded function is called.

C++ gives you tools for using functions as well as a new way of dealing with input and output. Next week, we put it all together in an object-oriented design.

# AND SO TO SUM UP ...

- C++ contains the best of C and more.
- A class keeps data, and the code to deal with that data, together in a simple way.
- If two functions do the same thing, you can give them the same name, by overloading.

# Cottage Computers and Software

For Top Quality Products And Top Quality Service



Dear Reader

May we welcome you to Cottage Computers and Software. With the flexibility of our service used across the board, many families and businesses are now enjoying their Computers and Software to the full, in the safe knowledge that if requested, we will support and advise them on all Computer Merchandise whenever possible.

Each month we review a wide selection of the new software available enabling us to offer Product Guidance to our Customers. Also we update our already extensive database of Computer Information covering the entire range of popular Computers. Any Customer can contact our office to request information and help with Software and we will be happy to offer all the advice we can. We are sure that you will appreciate the convenience and excellent value of this unique service.

# WE OFFER A COMPREHENSIVE RANGE OF AMIGA ATARI AND P.C LEISURE AND SERIOUS SOFTWARE

# ALL LATEST TITLES ARE AVAILABLE NOW JUST TELEPHONE FOR DETAILS

Cottage Top 15 Chart	Amiga	Atari	PC
Dragons Lair II	£33.99.	£33.99.	£33.99
Dungeon Master	£18.99.	£18.99.	£29.99
Elite	£19.99.	£19.99.	£19.99
F-19 Steatlth Fighter	£22.99.	£22.99 .	£29.99
Kings Quest 4	£29.99.	£29.99.	£26.99
Kick Off II	£18.99.	£18.99.	£18.99
Lemmings	£18.99.	£18.99.	£22.99
M1 Tank Platoon	£22.99.	£22.99.	£29.99
Monkey Island	£18.99.	£18.99.	£22.99
Midwinter	£22.99.	£22.99.	£26.99
Mig 29	£26.99.	£26.99.	£29.99
Operation Stealth		£18.99.	£22.99
Pipemania		£14.99.	£18.99
Riox Dangerous II		£18.99 .	£18.99
Weltris	£18.99.	£18.99 .	£22.99

ORDER/ADVICE I OTLINE
O703 740342
LINES OPEN 6 DAYS
MONDAY FRIDAY
10AM UNTIL 7PM
SATURDAY
10AM TO NOON
ANSWERPHONE AFTER HOURS

\* PLEASE NOTE\*
COTTAGE COMPUTERS AND
SOFTWARE RETAIL ONLY
OFFICIAL BRAND NAMED
COMMERCIAL PRODUCTS
AND TOP HOLE QUALITY
MERCHANDISE

You are assured of a friendly reliable service supplying computers and peripherals leisure and serious software. Overseas orders very welcome. Full back up advice service. If we can help we will. All letters answered A.S.A..P.

PUBLIC DOMAIN AND SHAREWARE LIBRARY ASK FOR DETAILS

COTTAGE COMPUTERS & SOFTWARE NCP. Manager
P.O. BOX 34 ROMSEY HAMPSHIRE
SO51 8YW 0703 740342

JOIN HUNDREDS OF SATISFIED CUSTOMERS NOW 33p A3 S.A.E FOR: COMPREHENSIVE CATALOGUE AND INTRODUCTORY LETTER.

ALL PRICES INCLUDE VAT. PLEASE ADD £1.00 TO EACH ORDER TO INCLUDE RECORDED DELIVERY POSTAGE AND PACKING THANK YOU

CHEQUE POSTAL ORDERS
AND CREDIT CARD
FACILITIE
ASSESS
AVAILABLE

We have been in the computer business for some considerable time and we are proud of our excellent reputation for Customer Care and Customer Service

# SAME OLD SONG

that you could overcome the limitations of the ST's internal sound chip and create high quality music on the machine without resorting to extra hardware. To a large extent it has since been superseded in terms of features by newer packages, but is now available in a new upgraded version with stereo output.

Essentially, Quartet 1.5 is pretty much the same as its predecessor. It is a four channel sample sequencer, which means that you can create songs using four different sounds, called 'samples', simultaneously. Samples are digitised versions of real sound or sounds completely generated by computer. The program supplies you with a selection of over 100, ranging from oboes and trumpets to more outlandish ones like 'acid' and 'alien'. Most are of an excellent quality, though there are a couple to which you would be hard pressed to put a name; the piano especially sounds more like a harpsichord. You can also edit individual samples, to change the pitch, frequency and volume, or add special effects.

However, you are not restricted to the samples supplied with the program as it has the facility to import files you have created yourself with a sampler or have obtained from on disk from a PD library.

# **LAYERING A TUNE**

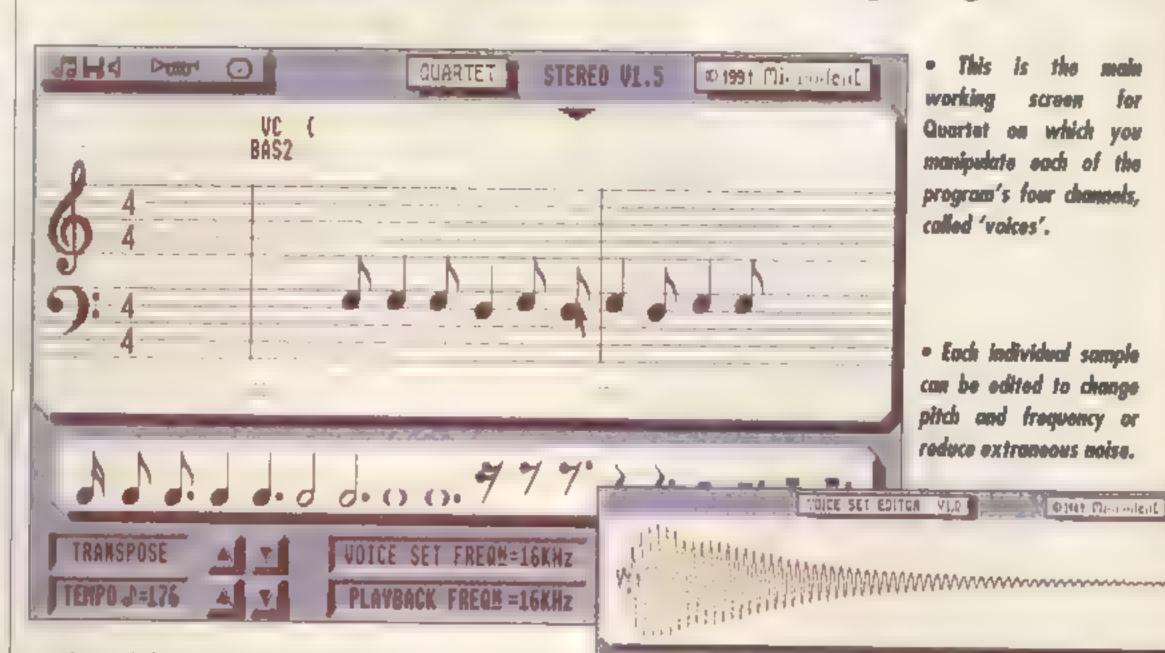
The four different channels are called 'voices' and you have to deal with each one individually, assigning it a sample and designating which notes it should play. Generally one voice will be the drum track, another will be the melody while the remaining two provide the musical frills.

Notes can be entered in two ways. The first is by selecting them from a window at the bottom of the main screen and then placing them in the desired position on the program's stave window using the mouse.

However, the program also has limited MIDI capabilities so in 'Record' mode notes you play on a MIDI instrument will automatically appear in *Quarter's* stave window. You can either record each voice one at a time to build up a tune, or use the polyphonic mode to play four notes simultaneously, making chords possible. But, despite what it says on the packaging, the program is not 'fully' MIDI compatible, in that you cannot control MIDI instruments using *Quartet*.

Once the notes have been placed on the stave you can edit each voice in a number of ways. You can change, delete or add notes, set up loops for recurrent riffs, or even change the samples being used. Up to 20 different instruments can be used in any one piece of

One of the first multi-track sampling programs for the ST, Quartet, has been upgraded, but Dave Golder fears that it is showing its age.



music and for each composition these have to be defined in a 'voice set'. One has already been set up in the program, though editing this one or creating new voice sets is easy enough.

Tunes created with *Quartet* do not take up much memory space. A song several minutes long will average around 50k, making it ideal for using in demos. There is a utility included in the package for incorporating the songs into your own programs.

### LIMITED STEREO

Basically, all that has been added for the upgrade is the stereo sound and unfortunately it is not to get excited about. Voices one and two have been designated the left channel while voices three or four are the right channel. This means that if, say, you decide to have your drum track as voice one you are stuck with having it come out of the left speaker throughout a tune. The whole set-up hardty allows for stunning stereo effects unless you are prepared to spend an incredibly long time swapping the instruments from one voice to another.

The authors have also failed to take the opportunity to rectify some of the drawbacks of the original. For example, not all the functions are accessible from the same screen; to move from editing a voice set to the stave screen you have to quit from one application,

change disks and open the new application. All a bit fiddly and time consuming.

With so many other programs on the market offering more and better features than Quartet, and for less
money (see accompanying panel), this upgrade is a
wasted opportunity to bring the program up to date. It
may have been the first program of its type on the market, but without a bit of the rethink it could easily be the
first to go as well.

If the possibilty of stereo sound still appeals to you, though, and you only have a mone ST, STF or STFM Microdeal has handily provided the answer with its Playback package. This is a stereo sample player for the whole ST range which connects your ST to an amplifier (most modern portable stereos will suffice for this task). As part of a limited offer, Playback retails for £29.95 on its own, but is currently being bundled for free with Quartet 1.5.

Quartet 1.5 retails for £49.95. Existing users can upgrade for £3. Contact Microdeal on 0726 68020.

# BATTLE OF THE WAVEBANDS

The two main competitors to Quarter come from the same company, MPH.

The TCB Tracker costs just £15

The TCB Tracker costs just £15
and has all the same features as

Quartet and more besides, including
better sample and note editing
facilities. It is fully MIDI compatible
and can be used to drive MIDI
instruments. As well as instruments
samples supplied with the program

include snatches of dialogue, such as the president has been shot and "Ah yeah"

Audio Sculpture retails for E44.95, still less than Quarter, and so by far the most powerful package of the three. Fully MIDI compatible in lets you play around with 32 samples simultaneously as opposed to just four with the other two. It is

directly compatible with the Amiga Noisetracker and features a built-in sampler to create your own sounds and a sample editor

A new enhanced version of Audio Sculpture, which Express will be reviewing in an up coming issue as due at the end of the month. In the meantime MPH can be contacted on 0603 503382

# - HARMONY AND DISCORD-

## HARMONY

- Very good sound quality
- ▲ Songs use up little memory
- Supplementary programs for incorporating songs into your own programs and for making imported samples Quartet compatible
- ▲ Effective noise reduction facilities
- ▲ Limited MIDI compatible

### DISCORD

- ▼ The stereo sound is extremely limited
- You cannot access all the functions from one main screen
- ▼ Rather pricey in comparison with similar packages
- ▼ Limited set of functions

# GAMESWEEK

Gary Penn takes a brief stroll down Software Street to do this week's shopping...

# CHAT

With the award winning Kick Offland Kick Off 2 under his belt, and Final Whistle topping the charts, designer Sleve Screech is in the rinal throws of putting together a different sort of computer sport, but in the same vein. The basketball simulation Tip Off a being produced in conjunction with Dino Dini, and programmer behind Kick Offland its sequel. Steve has been making use at extensive video footage of American basketball to ensure that the factics employed in Tip Offlare as authentic as possible. Tip Offlare as authentic as possible. Tip Offlare as authentic as possible. Tip Offlare as authentic as possible.



Lemmings creator DMA
Design is working on a
loate disk and a sequel is
la previous Number One
smash Lemmings. The first
set of new evels a due for
release this Summer with

the sequel (which is apparently to take advantage at slightly larger creatures o improve the player's emotional commitment) due for release towards the end of the year. Sadly this means that work in the team's log 'n bold beat em as Gore and its impressive looking shoot em up-with-shadows Walker has been suspended until turther notice. DMA Design is also outting together the cartoonesque arcade action of Cutevi Pool for release before the year is out.



WEEK	WEEK	TITLE	PUBLISHER	MACHINE
1	3	Final Whistle	Anco	ST AG
2	1	Fantasy World Dizzy	Codemasters	ST AG
3	5	Little Puff	Codemasters	ST AG
4	13	Viz	Virglo Games	ST AG
5	19	PGA Tour Golf	Electronic Arts	AG PC OT
6	3	Speedball 2	Mirrorsoft ;	ST AG
7	10	Lemmings	Psygnosis	AG
8	RE	Operation Wolf	Hit Squad	ST AG
9	6	Forgotten Worlds	King	ST AG
10	NE	Power Up	Осеап	ST AG

ST = Atari ST JBB = Commodore Amigs PC = IBM PC or competible OT = Other Charl compiled by Gallup. : European Lelaura Software Publishers Association.

# DRAGON'S LAIR II: TIMEWARP Readysoft • Amiga

When the Timewarp title screen appears, press
RETURN then type GET MORDROC DIRK (including spaces). Now if you begin play the story will unfold on its own.



of the year. A time for giving and, best of all, receiving. A time of over-indulgence in every way conceivable. A time – sigh – when our hearts go out to those less fortunate than ourselves.

Easter is special too. And it's just gone. Sod the ethereal significances though. Both occasions represent prime times to release software, unlike the Summer of course, which in just around the corner. Sadly, what with this year being a bit duff and all, there have been fewer releases. Make the most of it while you can, that's what I say.

Novagen does. Software publishers come and go like the seasons, but this Birmingham-based outfit has been with us for around ■ decade now – despite the fact that its releases number few. That says a lot for the quality.

Novagen's latest output comes in the form of two new versions of an old favourite – the company's debut release in fact. Encounter first appeared way back in 1983 on the Atari XL. These new incarnations for the Atari ST and Amiga feature pretty much the same straightforward cat 'n' mouse blasting action as their forerunners, only this time around they look and sound better thanks to some swish three-dimensional effects from Novagen's unreleased shoot 'em up Skeltor. ST Encounter and Amiga Encounter are both due to appear in the third week of April, priced at £19.99 apiece.

Less imminently from Novagen is Damocles II:

Double Trouble – the sequel to the sequel to the company's mould-breaking adventure Mercenary. Once again the comet Damocles is heading towards the planet Eris. With only a few hours to spare, the race is on to prevent disaster. That's trouble number one.

The other half of the Double Trouble is the result of Novagen taking note of a criticism levelled at the original *Damocles* – that the going got a little too lonely at times. Now we have a villain to contend with too.

The bad egg in question goes by the name of K C Kim. He rules the outer reaches of the Damocles solar system, but for some bizarre reason wants to restrict his dominance by destroying the other planets. Needless to say, his exploits cause their own share of problems on each planet.

Damocles II will be released for the Atari ST and Amiga this Summer, a year since the eventual arrival of its predecessor.

Incidentally, Mercenary and the original Encounter have been re-released at budget prices. Both come highly recommended. Encounter is available on Commodore 64 and Atari 800 for £2.99 via Atlantis – call 081-771 8642. Mercenary comes straight from Novagen – 021 449 9516 – priced at £9.99 on the Atari ST and Amiga, and £2.99 for the Commodore 64, Spectrum, Amstrad and Atari 800.

From the small screen to the big screen and back again with the announcement that Ocean has secured the licence to produce the magnetic media incamations of two new films. The first, which will appear last, is the long-awaited big-screen version of *The Adams Family*. Apparently, the creepy kin is



# VAXINE

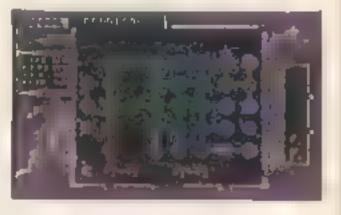
US Gold • Atari ST & Amiga

During play type WILDEBEESTE to activate the cheat mode. Now press the 'F1' key to advance a single level and 'F2' to go back a level. Pressing the 'F3' key advances 10 levels while 'F4' goes back 10 levels.

full of famous actor faces, including Back To The Future star Christopher Lloyd. Further details have yet to be confirmed.

There is however more information about the secand licence, which is for the new Bruce Willis flick Hudson Hawk. The Moonlighting and Die Hard hunk is responsible for the original story and also plays the lead role under the direction of Michael Lehmann (Heathers, Meet The Applegates). The story has it that Hawk is the best art-inspired cat burglar there is - or was, as he's gone straight. However, unscrupulous fellows have other ideas. They want Hawk to steal the plans to Leonardo Da Vinci's alchemy machine. He agrees and a manic mixture of action and near-slapstick comedy ensues. The trailers for this potential silver screen smash are currently doing the rounds in most cinemas in preparation for a late Summer release. The software, which is being handled by Ocean's in-house team, won't be seen until later this year.

Finally, here's one for puzzle freaks... In the tracks of the loveable Lemmings comes Psygnosis' Alomino, arather smart arcade-style puzzler which originates



from Germany. The idea in *Atomino* is to join together atoms to make molecules within the bounds of set tasks. It's as simple as that – but considerably more enjoyable than any science lesson. Judging from the playable preview afixed to the front of sister magazine *Amiga Format*, *Atomino* is one of the most addictive

# A LA

# SAINT DRAGON Storm • Atari ST & Amiga

During play, press the CAPS LOCK. Now type any of the following (including any spaces) then press RETURN and the CAPS LOCK again to turn it off. Incidentally, the strange names refer to those of the programmer's furry mice.

BREAK OFF THE ATTACK THE SHIELD IS STILL UP Have some Lasers.

DECAFFEINATED Have immunity from everything.

FISHFINGERS Have some bouncy balls.

KIRSTIE AND GEMMA Provides unlimited credits.

KYLIE Oh deary. What has happened to the music?

MAKE MY DAY How about maximum firepower?

MEENY MEENY MEE PUNTETTAY MANYETT MANYETT

MANYETT PUNTOO Have the Turret weapon.

PYROTECHNICS Have the Fireball weapon.

SAVE THE RAINFOREST Now you can move on a level. WHAT'S WRONG NEVER SEEN A GUY WHO SLEPT WITH A FISH BEFORE? Provides an unlimited number of lives.



Now try these for some weird effects...
I HATE THE RADION ADVERT
MEDITATION FUNCTION
SOMETHING SPOCK BUILT
THE GNOME AT HOME
WE LOVE THE PUNTETTAY

challenges of this type to appear. Don't miss it when it's released at the end of April for the Commodore 64 (£9.99 on cassette and £14.99 on diskette), Atari ST and Amiga (£25.99 apiece) and IBM PC and compatibles (£34.99).

# **BONANZA BROS**

Quite co-incidentally, one of Sega's latest coin-operated corkers is in a similar vein to Hudson Hawk. Well, similar-ish. Mobo and Robo are the Bonanza Bros, ■ pair of small-time crooks made good. They steal anything that isn't bolted down, from banks, homes and even ocean liners. Bonanza Bros looks and plays quite differently to any of the company's previous releases. Cleancut, apparently computer-generated imagery fronts simplified, slapstick gameplay. Sega reckons that this differ-

ence will prove a big hit with the girls - a quick stroll around some of the London-based arcades revealed that this is not far from the truth. US Gold has acquired the licence to reproduce Bonanza Bros on the home computer systems, though neither a team to do the deed nor a release date have been confirmed.



#### CAR-VUP

Core Design • Atarl ST & Amiga



On the high score table enter any of the following instead of your name.

PUSSYCAT Play away with nine lives. BUMPER Bump away to your heart's content from the start of every level.

ARNIECAR Especially for you: a 100,000 points bonus. WOAARRGGH A Speed Turn is now yours. WHOOPSIE This starts you on the Prehistoric level.

# THE TRAINSPOTTERS GUIDE TO THE ENTERTAINMENT SOFTWARE INDUSTRY

Haven't you always wanted to know more about the people responsible for bringing entertainment software to the stores? Of course you have. Well, now you can. Yes, week by week and in no particular order as such, we will bring you an up-to-the-minute profile on both programmers and publishers. Their software past, present and, best of all, future. Plus, as many of their hints, tips and cheats that we can possibly squeeze in.



# RICK DANGEROUS II

MicroStyle • Atari ST & Amiga

Enter POOKY instead of your name in the high score table. When the level select menu appears there will be a new option in the bottom - '16 BIT LONG GAME'. Moving the joystick left or right allows you to change this new option to '8 BIT SHORT GAME'. You can now play one of two versions of Rick II. You see, when Core Design programmed Rick II the 16-bit levels were basically extended versions of the 8-bit originals. So now you can finish Rick II a lot easier, even though you won't have seen half of the screens.

**NEXT WEEK: Arc Developments** 

# CHUCK ROCK Core Design

Amiga & Atari ST £24.99 • Sega Mega Drive planned

There's a new neanderthal in town. His name's Chuck Rock. Core Design's latest computer character looks set III do for cavemen what Rick Dangerous did for Harrison Ford. Or maybe not.

Comic-books and cartoons are an invaluable source III inspiration for computer and video game designers. Perhaps one fine day the situation will be reversed - maybe sooner than later, what with awareness of Nintendo's Mario reaching global proportions.

Chuck Rock is the result of the collaboration between Rick Dangerous II designer Bob Churchill and programmer Chris Long (in fact this is 16-bit debut). The platform-based action is at times unashamedly Flintstones-Inspired, though apparently the whole sphere of cartoons influenced the end result. Whether the eponymous Chuck will shine world-wide remains to be seen though. Still, he's certainly one of the more endearing characters to appear on the small screen.

And so to the plot: the beer-swilling Chuck is sat watching television while his voluptuous (well, as voluptuous as pixels can be) wife Ophelia hangs out the

> laundry with baby Pterodactyl pegs. But then... a shadowy figure is seen hiding in the bushes. It's the local nutter Gary Gritter and he's got the hots for Chuck's missus. Groping Gaz sneaks up behind Ophelia and lets her have it with his club before dragging her off by the hair to his lair. The commotion eventually filters through to Chuck's consciousness, at which point he realises that his prehistoric strides have also been half-inched. M last, Chuck sets off in pursuit - via a bush to hide his modesty.

> Nothing ground-breaking there, but the story is related via a neat animated introductory sequence. Granted, this in itself is

not a new idea either, but it works well enough. It seems only recently that these short scene setters have reached a level of competence - probably because cramming something watchable into very few seconds can't be easy, especially as it's such a different discipline to producing a playable game.

However, Core has succeeded on both counts, to the extent that Chuck Rock has a distinctly healthy cartoonesque console feel. (And as fate would have it, Chuck Rock in fact currently being converted to the Sega MegaDrive).

Artist Lee Pullen (who made his debut with Torvak The Warrior) has done well to capture a quality cartoon flavour. Everything about the prehistoric setting is big, bold and colourful, contrasting to great effect against the parallaxscrolling background (on the Amiga that is).

Equally impressive is the fact that it's not only Chuck who has codies of animation frames which cater for all manner of situationdependent expressions and movements. Every one of the plethora of prehistoric pests has more than enough detail to ensure that it oozes character too. And all this visual vibrancy in combined with dozens of suitably atmospheric cartoon-like sampled sounds courtesy of one Matthew Simmonds (who also did the same deed for CarVup).

Chuck Rock is a right laugh and no mistake. It's fun to watch and, more importantly, entertaining and rewarding to play.



 In this mighty jungle you won't find any sleeping lions tonight. Instead there are dezens of peculiar prehistoric pests in contend with.



 Not all dinosaurs are unfriendly though... there's a happy pterodactyl which picks Chuck up by the hair and carries him across large and difficult distances. Seen here, though, 🗎 a beast who carries Chuck across deep 'n' deadly swamps.



 Chuck has two main means of attack: a flying karate kick and (seen here) a sawcy-looking belly bump with accompanying bass-drum bang. And just like Brucey, Chuck has his own (potential) catchphrase — he grunts "Unga Bunga" whenever he begins a new life.



 Chuck also has a taleat for taking advantage of the many boulders or rocks lying around, which more often than not provides a novel gameplay twist. Chuck can either using a rock as a step iii sorts or pick one up and throw it at something. And then perhaps use it as a step of sorts.



 Chuck's world comprises five different sections, each split into smaller zones with suitable inhabitants. Having negotiated the jungle and a large covernous section (complete with screen-shaking selsmic activity), Chuck goes for a dip under water before moving moves on to a frostler clime - the Ice Age (and you can see his breath). The final section is a land full of dead and half-dead creatures.

























was parked outside iill night.

Our next step was to track down the postwoman on whose round the 3/5 Cranford Place address lay. According to Mrs Raby, Mr Gold had once told the postwoman that he was starting up a business and expected some extra mail. We spoke to Ann Edgerton, who gave the following description of the man she knew as John Gold:

- Not exactly very tall maybe 5 feet 5 inches or 5 feet ■ inches tall and scruffy-looking.
- Dark hair, with a moustache and 'not what you would call a full beard.'
- Quite skinny.
- He wore glasses.

These two descriptions of John Gold are at serious variance with the description that Dr Susan Watson offered...

## THROUGH THE LETTERBOX

Continuing our conversation with Ann Edgerton, we learnt that the post for Geographic arrived in a rush that lasted about three weeks to a month: "bundles containing about 40 to 50 envelopes arrived each day" she said. "Then all once it dropped off".

That could represent as many as 1,000 orders, at £19.95 each.

Then the Post Office received a letter signed by a 'Mr Herbert' telling them that Geographic had gone away.

Mail for Cranford Place is processed in Shipley Post Office, where we spoke

to Vernon Stoker, the sorting office manager who told us: "We received notification that the people had gone away, and we're now re-directing any mail to Geographic to the returned letter branch at Bradford."

He added: "We don't like see people twisted. If anyone's worried, they

# The reply came - it seems that Dr Watson drew out the money and handed it over to John Gold in cash.

can get a P58 form from any Post Office and return it to any Post Office and it will come to us and go on to the returned letter branch."

So that's what to do if you sent Geographic a letter, perhaps containing a postal order or a cheque that has not yet been cashed.

Village postwoman Ann Edgerton confirmed that all mail for Geographic was now being dealt with by the Post Office rather than by Dr Watson or John Gold and said: "Over 250 letters have been redirected. Instead of delivering them, I now re-address them to the returned letters branch."

Despite his stated intention early in March to inform people when Geographic found new premises, John Gold appears to have taken no steps to ensure his mail follows him. He deserted the Cranfield Place address leaving hundreds of unhappy customers with no effective way of contacting him.

# SO WHERE'S THE MONEY?

In our second telephone conversation

with Dr Susan Watson, she said that she never had an address or telephone number for John Gold – apparently, he just turned up from time to time (to use her home telephone to book advertising space, and deal with various aspects of the Geographic business, amongst other things it now transpires).

Although she admitted to processing around £10,000 worth of Geographic cheques through her personal account, during that conversation we omitted to ask her what then happened to the money. So in accordance with the wishes of Howard Kirby (as stated in his letter to us) we telephoned Leeds University's Institute for Transport Studies and asked Kirby to pose that question to Dr Watson on our behalf.

The reply came – it seems that Dr Watson drew out the money and handed it over to John Gold in cash.

There were still a number of unresolved points about the Geographic saga that we wished to clarify with Dr Watson,

Then the Post Office received a hand-written letter signed by a 'Mr Herbert' telling them that Geographic had gone away.

so we asked Howard Kirby if she would telephone us once more.

So far, we have not received that telephone call, nor have we received a response to a letter we sent to Dr Watson raising detailed points about how and when the cash was handed over, whether any of it still remains in her account, how she came to know Mr

Gold, how she contacted him, and why she allowed him to use her home address and telephone to book advertising. We also sought clarification about the confusion surrounding the descriptions of the man known as Mr Gold.

Copies of this letter were sent recorded delivery to Dr Watson at her home address and to her place of work – the Leeds University Institute of Transport Studies. As we went to press, we had not received a reply.

# **UNANSWERED QUESTIONS**

Several questions remain to be answered satisfactority.

- Why did Dr Susan Watson originally deny any involvement with John Gold and Geographic?
- Why did she then change her story, and admit to doing some 'administrative' work work which included paying some £10,000-worth of cheques into her personal account and handing the money over in cash, presumably to John Gold?
- Why does Dr Susan Watson's description of John Gold differ so radically from the descriptions of a man who the local postwoman and the staff in the shop on the corner of Cranford Place believe to be John Gold?
- Who, and where is John Gold?

If you can answer any of these questions, or if you know where John Gold is – or indeed, if you are John Gold – please call the Express hotline 0225 481772 or fax us on 0225 482018.

Express has not yet finished its investigations into this matter - be sure to look out for more details next issue, on sale Thursday May 4

# **HOW TO AVOID MAIL ORDER MISERY**

The experience of Geographic's customers is not universal in the world of mail order. The majority of companies that advertise in computer magazines seek to offer their customers value for money and respect the practices that lead to good trading.

If you are going to buy software that you haven't seen, or read a review of, here are a few pointers to protecting your own interests.

- Look out for reviews. If a product is good enough to pass muster, the publisher will send it to the magazines to review; if it's likely to be slated, review copies will be scarce...
- If possible, pay by credit card as this offers you some degree of protection – in certain circumstances you can claim against the credit card company.
- Never pay by cash if you don't have a credit card always used a crossed cheque or postal order.
- Don't send money to a company until you've rung them and verified that the program exists and that it does what it says.
- When you ring, ask the name of the person who you speak to and what their job is. Make a note of any claims made for the product.
- Look for previous advertisements. A company that has been advertising for a while is likely to be doing so as the

result of satisfying its customers.

• Ask how long the company has been in existence, and if it is registered as a Limited company – while new companies are usually reputable, disreputable companies don't tend to stay in business...

# YOUR RIGHTS

No matter how you buy a product, you can return it if it falls to meet one of the following criteria:

if it's not of 'merchantable' quality if it's not 'as described'

if it's not 'fit for the purpose for which it was sold' and you are entitled, by law, to a refund or to compensation for part of the value or to a replacement or to a free repair. (Your local Citizens Advice Bureau or Trading Standards Office (TSO) can explain these criteria more fully.)

When you return something, make sure that you have proof of purchase and that you return it as soon as possible after buying it. Check goods as soon as they are delivered to make sure that everything you ordered is present and they everything works as it is supposed to.

If you have difficulties, you can always contact your local TSO, or the TSO that has responsibility for the area in which the supplying company is located – which is the



 Mr Attenborough, of the West Yorkshire Trading Standards Office - just one of the many people who would like to speeck to the elusive John Gold.

West Yorkshire Trading Standards Office in the case of Geographic.

We talked to Mr Attenborough, spokesman for West Yorkshire TSO who said: "We have had several complaints about Geographic from the public and from other Trading Standards Offices that have been contacted by customers of Geographic." He confirmed that he was actively investigating Geographic – we will pass the Express files to him in due course. Disgruntled Geographic customers can reach West Yorkshire TSO on 0532 536111, but remember to be polite – don't forget, it's not their fault!

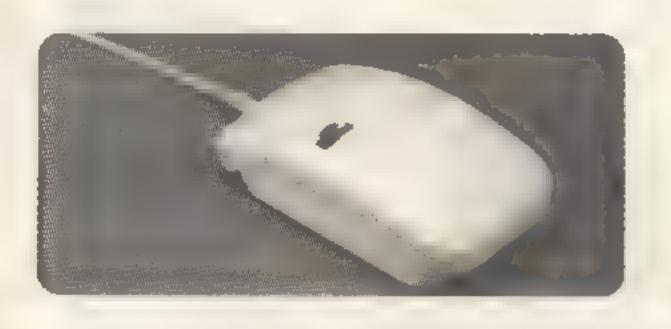


# GOLDEN IMAGE DISTRIBUTOR

# OFFICIAL

# OPTO-MECHANICAL MICE

Atari ST	£19.95
Commodore Amiga	£19.95
ST/Amiga switchable	£24.95
IBM Serial	£24.95
IBM PS/2	£19.95
Amstrad PC Bus	£19.95



# TRACKBALLS

Commodore Amiga	£39.95
Atari ST	£39.95
IBM PC Serial	£39.95

# HANDSCANNERS

ST with Touch-Up	£199.95
Amiga with Touch-Up	£199.95
IBM PC Multi-directional	£199.95



# CORDLESS MICE

Atari ST	£39.95
Commodore Amiga	£39.95
IBM PC Serial	£39.95

# THE BRUSH

The brush is a new slim mouse which is used like m pen. It's ideal for artists.

Amiga £39.95 ST £39.95

# **OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Prices include P&P and VAT at 17.5%

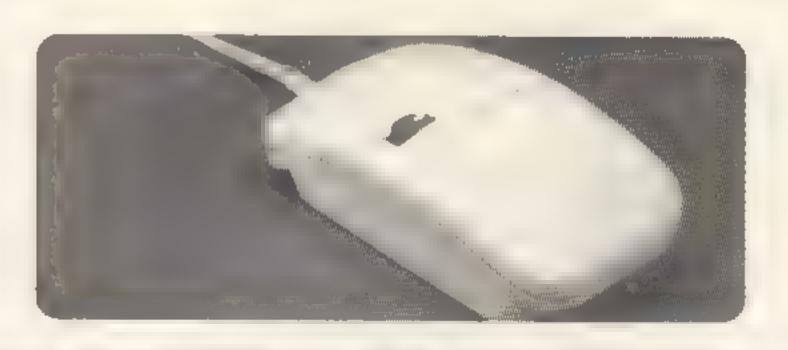
Overnight courier service available at extra cost

> Please telephone for availability

> > £149.95

# OPTICAL MICE

Atari ST	£35.95
Commodore Amiga	£35.95
ST/Amiga switchable	£39.95
IBM PC serial	£39.95
IBM PC with Dr. Halo	£49.95
Amstrad PC bus	£35.95



RAM CARDS 2Mb Amiga 500 expansion unpopulated £29.95 2Mb Amiga 500 expansion populated £129.95 512K Amiga 500 expansion £29.95 2Mb Atari ST expansion unpopulated £29.95

2Mb Atari ST expansion populated

Golden Image (UK) Ltd, Golden Image House, Fairways Business Park, Lammas Road, London, E10 7QT

# Trade Enquiries Welcome

Tel 081-518 7373 Fax 081-518 7585

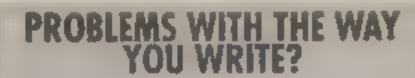
Credit card orders accepted by phone. Atari ST, Commodore Amiga, Amstrad and IBM are all registered trademarks of their respective owners

# 

f we consider for a moment why we need keyboards to operate our computers we soon realise it's simply because there's no other means of inputting commands. While this may sound ridiculous it's only because we automatically assume it to be the case. Granted, typing documents may be a little difficult without a substuitute for a typewriter but with the emergence of the Graphical User Interface as the de facto standard front end from Windows 3 and Ensemble to Macintosh System 7 and NeXT Step - the means of controlling our machines has radically altered.

We no longer need the Command Line Interface. For everyday file management all that is required is a pointing device which can be clicked to move, copy, delete and launch applications and documents. To an extent a mouse already provides this function extremely well. Other devices like trackerballs and pressure-sensitive pads also deliver the goods, perhaps somewhat less effectively.

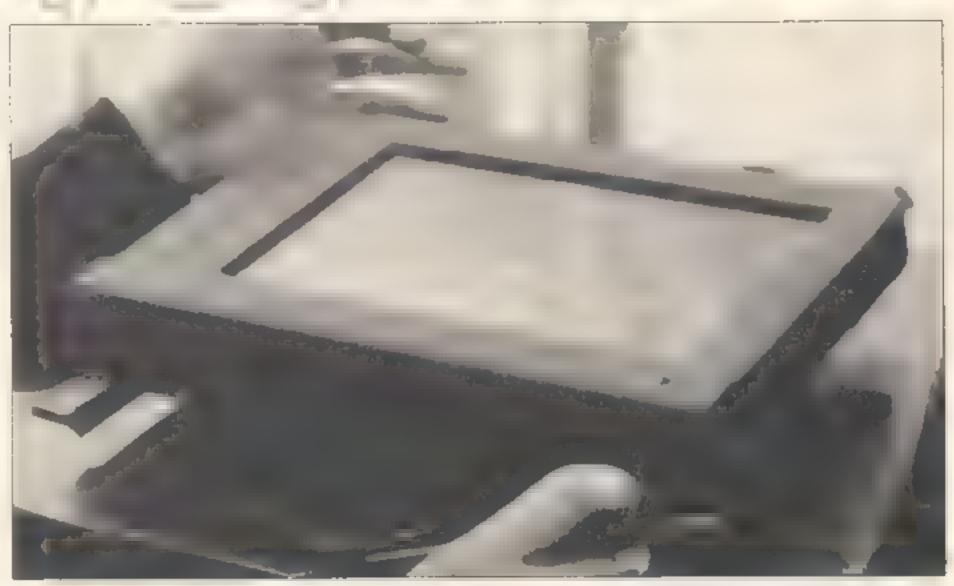
But the real advance - to pen and voice input systems is only now becoming practicable. One could argue it's inevitable. As computers have become more and more pervasive, infiltrating ill areas of commerce and leisure, computer literacy has been constrained by the dreaded Command Line. Windows, Icons, Mice and Pointers may have



A typical handwriting recognition system can occupy as little as 100K of code and process about three characters a second. But the success of the system depends on a large number of variables, each of which have to be 'learnt'.

Any handwriting translation (H W X) system also requires a spelling dictionary and the ability to distinguish between characters that overlap and touch, are of mixed size and case and include numbers and punctuation. Any system requires some familiarisation with the person using it. Accuracy rates of over 90 per cent are not uncommon but four out of five words is the average.

Neural networking would be the Ideal answer to this process, as the neurons would learn a users handwriting perfectly, learning from mistakes as it made them. Current systems though have no such sophistication. However long you use them, they will still make the same mistake - you rather than the program must change your handwriting to suit them if you wish to increase the accuracy rate. This is because HWXs have to compare written word shapes with stored templates or prototypes. GO's PenPoint system is innovative in this respect though it does at least allow you to build a number of your own prototypes.



 Atari's entry into the pen input portable arena is the NT Pad. Whereas the GriDPad costs some £2500, Atari's smart little beauty has a projected price point of around £700. Whether its GEM style interface and handwriting translation abilies are as good as the former remains to be seen - it won't be available until next year.

made the technolear a little easier to cope with, but what the great mass out there really wants is something they can talk ..... And while they're waiting for this to arrive they'll put up with pen input. Moreover, it makes sense from the manufacturers end too, doesn't it? More units will sell if you don't need the equivalent of a degree to operate the damn things.

But even more far sighted, both from the point of view of developers and marketing men, is the notion that true portability depends on the death of the keyboard. Design can then offer just a pocket sized screen which can be directly written to using a stylus not too dissimilar from a Stylograph pen. Then, so the thinking goes, everyone will want one and we'll all lead much more efficient lives thank you very much.

# **HOW TO POINT A PEN**

Certainly this in the thinking behind the ST Pad and GridPad. Both these tablet-like devices operate more like notebooks than computers, being designed to replace the kind of clipboard touted by market researchers. For although the ST Pad, previewed in Express 124, is still at a prototype stage as far as its applications are concerned, we can expect a modified GEM style interface. Whereas with the GridPad, reviewed in Express 122, customised applications with hand-writing recognition algorithms preserve the user from a traditional MS-DOS command line. But for a true pen-

# HOW DOES PEN INPUT

A stylus, lightpen sor finger for that matter interacts with either a pressure-sensitive, electromagnetic or laser grid generated across the surface a screen which enables the operating system to detect its position and whether it's making contacts

input portable, incorporating a radically different interface we have to look at the kind of front-end offered by the GO machine. With its

"What they really want is something they can talk to. And while they're waiting they'll put up with pen input"

PenPoint interface, a rendition of which surrounds this article, the design metaphor is actually more that of the Filofax than the notebook.

PenPoint is a 32-bit object-oriented, multi-Operating System designed tasking specifically to be driven by a pen and incorporating two features hitherto absent from other Graphical User Interfaces.

The first is the Notebook User Interface. The easiest way to think of this is just as the pages of a diary or jotting pad. Notes are always live text in so far as they can be added to and annotated at any time and in any way the writer wishes. The only difference is the physical nature of the screen and paper - the former scrolls where the latter would need to be turned.

With the NUI, a user can flip between pages and always return to the point at which the page was last visited. The notion of opening a document, scrolling to the end, adding some more data and saving it, in out of place here. It's now an anachronism. With the current state-of-the-art you simply have hundreds or thousands of pages which appear to be running simultaneously. An automatically generated contents page precedes the pages

Atori's

differ-

nd of

ith its

Sur-

or is

note-

multi-

gned

orpo-

other

face.

s the

are

dded

way

s the

- the

ed to

ween

thich

pen-

dding

place

CUI-

dreds

run-

ically

ages

Does the appearance of a new breed of machines like the ST Pad, the GridPad, the Go! and the Active Book, mean we can consign the keyboard to the wastebasket forever? Express puts its finger on touch screen technology and beyond...

grouped under any subject area and you can create sections of groups of pages that can act as chapters. These reside as page labels on the edge of the display which can be 'touched' to be activated. In this sense the data is being organised along the lines of files within folders, except that rather than opening a new document into an application, one merely has in turn a page to affect the same function. In addition, frequently used notebooks can be put in a bookshelf area to be taken off and opened as desired. One Megabyte of RAM can hold around 100 pages of mixed text and graphics data.

### **GESTURING AT YOUR SCREEN**

The other innovative feature about the PenPoint front end is the Gesture function. While the GO's pen is used as both a pointing device and a handwriting device, it is also incorporated as an action tool. In this way regularly used file management operations are handled by denoting common symbols. For instance, a '0' is used to indicate Edit, a 3 is used to select from an option menu, an 'L' indicates a space to be inserted. Deleting a word, for instance, is simply a question of drawing a cross through it. A word can be made bold merely by drawing a 'B' over it. In this way, a user is able to annotate files and text with a dozen or so gestures allowing you to also select, drag, scroll and adjust text and file attributes.

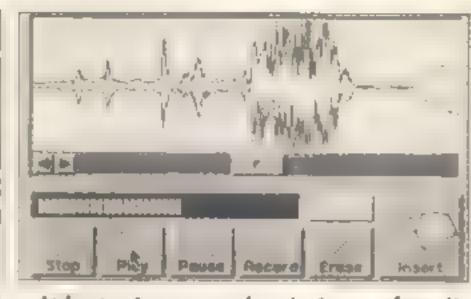
## **BEYOND TAPPING AND POINTING**

Doubtless the keyboard has transformed computing, but it is still an unnatural interface. What's more its functionality depends on it being big enough for fingers to connect with. As such the size of the notebook computer is restricted by the relatively large size of its keyboard. Poqet's PC and Atari's Portfolio are generally regarded as being about small as

# ON THE NEAR HORIZON

The Active Book

We're still waiting for ex Acorniounder Herman Hauser's Active Book aithough when iterrives later this year we can expect in include hand-writing recognition, voice recording, picture recording, direct e-mail and fax link ... Based around the ARM chip to be found in the Archimedes, the Active Book uses a notebook system of organisation similar for that found in IGO's PenPoint



· At least voice systems do exist in some form. Lip Service, running on the NeXT, allows users to annotate documents with spoken comments that can be replayed on loading. But actual speech recognition in realtime requires tremendous processing power and will ultimately require neural network technology for occurate understanding.

you can go before being unusable. White mice, styluses and trackerballs et al are slowly replacing the keyboard as a means of task management, it still remains the only viable means of large scale text entry.

In the future, voice recognition will come to the fore as processor speeds offer speeds of the required 100 MIPs. But the race is on for the first systems and already research companies are begining to market solutions which claim to recognise 25,000 words. Again though, recognition is still a bit of a hit and miss affair. Neural techonlogy will eventually find its way into the personal organisers of tomorrow.

# TOMORROW'S TECH SPECS

#### **GRID'S GRIDPAD**

Size: 11 inches x 8.5 Inches input device: stylus attached by lead Processor: 10MHz 80C86

RAM: 1Mb as standard Storage: 2 x 1Mb flash memory cards,

hard disk optional Peripherals: built in modem, fax modem,

networking

#### **GO'S PENPOINT**

Size: 8.5 Inches x 5.5 inches Input device: Cordless stylus 16MHz 286 or 386SX Processor:

RAM: At least 4Mb

Storage: Either 2.5 inch, 3.5 Inch hard

disk or flash memory cards Peripherals: Modems, fax modems,

networking

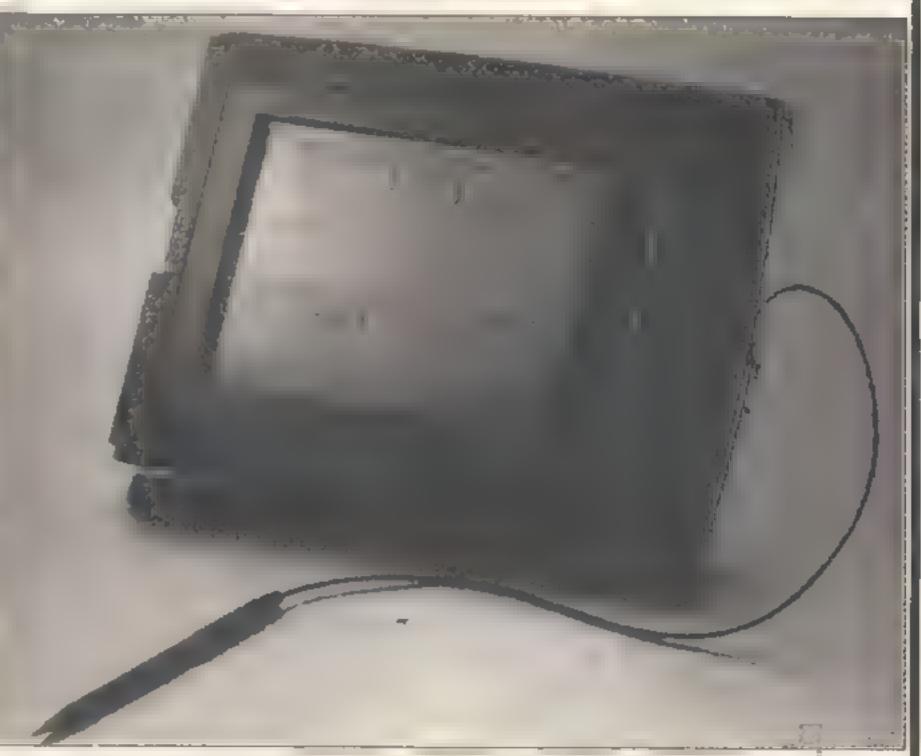
### **ATARI'S ST PAD**

Size: 11 inches by 8.5 Inches input device: Stylus attached by lead

Processor: 7.5 MHz 68000 RAM: 1Mb as standard Flash memory cards and Storage:

connection to ST disk drives

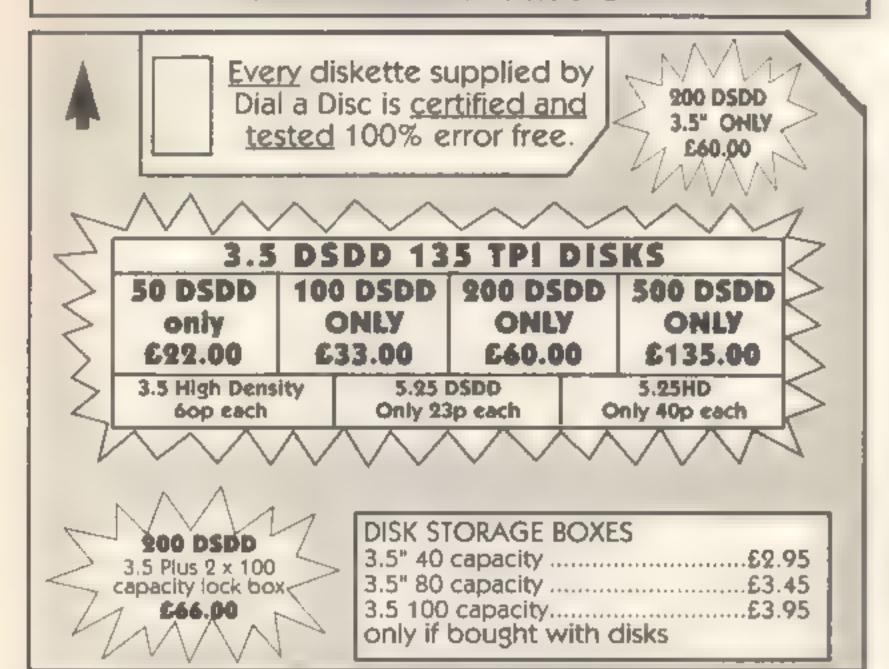
Peripherals: All ST add-ons and expansions



 The world's first laptop to offer handwriting recognition - the GriDPad. Weighing only 4 pounds, this innovative machine rous on RAM cards and features MS-DOS compatibility. Tandy owned GriD plan to introduce both colour and A5 versions later this year.

# THIS IS NOT A MISPRINT

ONLY BY PURCHASING OVER 3 MILLION DISKS A YEAR CAN WE OFFER THE FOLLOWING SENSATIONAL PRICES...



ALL prices include VAT & delivery

OUR PROMISE IS SIMPLE

100% SATISFACTION OR MONEY BACK

**DIAL A DISC** 

203 Southborough Lane, Bromiey, Kent, BR2 8AR. 081-467 0131

All offers subject to availability. E/OE,

# PD & SHAREWARE

who do you get yours from?



There are many PD libraries around but do they offer you.....
Huge collection, thousands of programs on over 3000 disks

Same day service - 1st Class post - GUARANTEED

Knowledgable staff on hand (no 'phone after six and ask for fred'!)

Three years experience collecting and distributing PD & Shareware to satisfied customers all over the world.

Send £1.00 for catalogue - free with order - please request and state MAKE of computer CLEARLY.

# **AMIGA**

urrently over \$00 disks in our estalogue, including Fred Fish, AFDC, AMICUS, PanoramA etc. Our own SOF collection is so good other libraries stock them now and of course we are exclusive distributors of the fabulous UGA disks. All are auto-boot, menu driven and so very easy to use, probably the best collection available! We also run as Amiga Club, ask for details.

# IBM PC

(and compatibles)

Thousands of the most popular Public domain and Shareware programs in our current catalogue, all available on either 3.5° or 5.25° format, if ordering (opposite) state which. Whetever type of program you may require, we've probably get it.

# ATARI ST

We currently stock over \$00 disks full of PD/
Shareware for these machines, containing
every imaginable type of program! Choose
from ALL the Public Domain, not just "a
selection". If you are new to ST'ing why not
join "Clubville", our popular user group,
£6:50 gets you newsheets, offers, special priozs
on goods, 5% Off blanks/PD etc.

MEGA PACK - £19:50 (£14:50) 5 PD disks + 5 blank disks

plus a Library case
(Selection of current popular titles),
INTRO DISK - £1:50
(Atari or Arniga only)

(state machine clearly)

24 Hour orderline on

0705-266509

SOFTVILLE

Unit 5, Stratfield Park, Electra Avenue, Waterlooville, Hants. PO7 7XN



VISA

# Upgrade your Amiga 500

# 512K extension with clock

- \* Top-quality PCB and connector for total reliability
- \* Latest 1 meg D RAMs for low power consumption
- \* Auto-recharging battery-backed real-time clock
- \* Memory enable/disable
- \* Compact design
- \* Easily fitted in seconds. No risk to your warranty

No frills or gimmicks. Just a quality product at the best price you'll find.

# Also available:

- \* 512K extension without clock
- \* Half meg card with clock (no RAMs) ; £15.50

\* Half meg card (no RAMs or clock)

Credit card hotline

24 - hour service

£29.95 inc VAT P&P

- \* RAM chips per ½ meg set
- \* 1½ meg extension with clock

\* 1½ meg card with clock (no RAMs)

Same day dispatch 12 - month guarantee



Virgo Developments Ltd, Sapphire House, Fishponds Road, Wokingham, Berkshire, RG11 2QJ.

£25.99

£11.50

VISA

£16.65

£79.95

£30.00



## SOUNDTRAP 3 AUDIO SAMPLER

- HIGHEST QUALITY
- SMALLEST ON THE MARKET
- FTTS A1000 OR A500/2000 PRINTER PASS-THRU
- GAIN CONTROL SOFTWARE, SCREWDRIVER
- LEAD INCLUDED.
- 7. COMPREHENSIVE MANUAL

# MINI-MIDI INTERFACE SOFTWARE-

- I. HIGHEST QUALITY
- SMALLEST ON THE MARKET
- 3. FTTS A500/2000/1000\*\*
- 4. DATA INDICATORS FITTED 5. 2 METRES CABLE BUILT IN
- 6. FULLY OPTO-ISOLATED 7. TRIED & TESTED DESIGN



\*\* A1000 REQUIRES SPECIAL ADAPTER

45 Meg A590 130 Meg A590 90 Meg A590 179 Meg A590.

THE A590 HARD DRIVE IS ALSO CAPABLE OF TAKING 2 MEGABYTES OF RAM. IF PURCHASED AT THE SAME TIME, JUST ADD 55.00 TO TOTAL

MEG BASE PACK 352.95 AMIGA A500 I Meg SCREEN GEWS PACK 397.95

AMIGA A500

BASE PACK

329.95

AMIGA A500

SCREEN GEMS PACK

374.95

AMIGA A500

A500 REPLACEMENT INT. DRIVE 54.96
A2000 INTERNAL DRIVES 59.96
A3000 INTERNAL DRIVES 59.96
46 MEG SCSI 3.5' HARD DRIVES 239.95
90 MEG SCSI 3.5' HARD DRIVES 349.96
136 MEG SCSI 3.5' HARD DRIVES 475.96
182 MEG SCSI 3.5' HARD DRIVES 475.96
182 MEG SCSI 3.5' HARD DRIVES 636.96
A590 CMOS RAM CHIPS (5120) 26.00 A500 REPLACEMENT INT. DRIVE A590 CMOS RAM CHIPS (512K) B2000 18 PIN DRAMS (2Meg) 256'1 DRAMS 150n6 1.3 ROMS 25.00 109.95 A3000 RAM 266'4 80ns 1MEG 66.96 A3000 RAM 1024'4 80ns 4MEG 299.95

512K with CLOCK + SWITCH INSOO with 1.5mag INSTALLED SIN500 OK SINSOD with 2mag INSTALLED X-RAM OK (for ASOD/1000) 175.95 X-RAM with 2mg INSTALLED X-RAM with among INSTALLED OCTABYTE OK (for 82000) OCTABYTE With 2mag INSTALLED OCTABYTE with 2mag INSTALLED OCTABYTE with 8mag INSTALLED INMATE OK+SCSI+68881 SOC. INMATE+2mag+SCSI+68881 SOC. A CHANNEL AUDIO MORE + MIC SOUND TRAP 3 + MINI-MICH SOUND TRAP 3 + AUDIOMASTERS SOUND TRAP 3 + AUDIOMASTERS MINI-MIDI + MUSIC-X AUDIOMASTER 2 AUDIOMASTER 3 AUDIOMASTER 3 X-COPY PROFESSIONAL vol.1 BYTE N'BACK OH/DISK BACKUP) V3.0 19.96
MUSIC-X V1.0
3.5' EXT DRIVE + ON/OFF SW. 59.96
3.5' EXT + TRACK COUNTER 88.49
A590 HARD DISK DK 271eg 354.96

68030 ACCELERATOR CARDS FIT A500/2000/1000 FROM

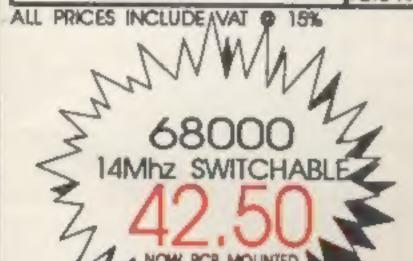
CALL FOR THE KEENEST PRICES ON THE FASTEST 68030 AVAILABLE

KCS POWER CARD (PC Emulator) AT-ONCE CARD (PC/AT Emulator) 5.25" ext. DISK DRIVE (40/80 TRIO

ALL CHEQUES, P.O., ETC SHOULD BE MADE PAYABLE TO OMEGA PROJECTS. WE ALSO TAKE ACCESS VISA, MASTERCARD & EUROCARD.

#\$\$####\$\$\$\$\$##\$\$\$

WHILE STOCKS LAST



354.95 WA3 5DY

14 DERWENT CLOSE

CHESHIRE , ENGLAND

CULCHETH , WARRINGTON

OPENING TIMES:

195.95

- FRI: 10.00 am - 6.00 pm 10.00 am - 5.00 pm

HAVE YOU GOT AN A590 HARD DRIVE THAT IS NEARLY FULL? IF SO, DON'T DESPAIR WE CAN UPGRADE YOU!!!. IF YOU ARE STILL UNDER WARRANTY, THEN YOUR OPTION IS EXPAND EXTERNALLY, AND IF YOU ARE NOT, THEN EXPAND INTERNALLY.....

ALL DRIVES COME WITH

DELIVERY EXTRA

EXTERNALLY 45MEG 90MEG 136MEG 182MEG

INTERNALLY 339.95 45MEG 90MEG 449.95 575.95 136MEG 182MEG 635.95

259.95 369.95 495.95 555.95

INTERNAL DRIVE

INCLUDING CLOCK & SWITCH (RRP 27.95)

# **FEATURES**

16 CHIP DESIGN (as Commodores own) 100% COMPATIBLE WITH a501C INCLUDES CLOCK INCLUDES ON/OFF SWITCH DESIGNED & BUILT IN THE U.K. FITTED IN SECONDS CORRECTLY PRICED

WILL CONFIGURE AS CHIPMEM
12 MONTHS WARRANTY
FOR LIMITED PERIOD 21.95 Without Clock (RRP 24.95)

# TAKE A FIRST STEP TOWARDS £5,000



but you've already got an Amiga, but you don't want to miss the chance of Commodore's premier educational bundle.

First Steps is the latest offering in Commodore's Class of the 90s series.

Aimed at just about everyone from toddler to pensioner, First Steps is an integrated software bundle designed to offer a learning package that takes in productivity, applications and leisure.

Included in the pack is an emulator which allows the Amiga to run BBC educational software. Although this must be a waste of the Amiga's potential, it allows access to the thousands of programs already at use in schools.

There's Logo too, ■ graphic and list processing language that uses a turtle to teach drawing on the screen. This version can talk too, allowing it to interact with the user.

Music mouse is a program that allows musician and novice alike to produce complex musical arangements using either the Amiga's internal sounds, samples or a full MIDI orchestra if you fill a MIDI interface and connect it to modules.

Putting prose to paper is handled by word processor Pro Write, with features like multiple font sizes and multi-tasking.

Infolile in a database that comes with templates for many often used methods of storing data including accounts, phone book, addresses, etc.

Artistic ability is catered for with Deluxe Paint II and output to printer can be enhanced by Deluxe Print II

nmodore's First Steps software bundle is prize on offer this week in the biggest ever ress software giveaway competition.

Finally, a couple of tutoring packages offer a more structured approach to the educational side of First Steps and the package follows the requirements of the National Curriculum.

We're giving away thousands of pounds worth of First Steps over the next few months and to win this week's First Steps bundle (worth £500 plus) all you have to do is answer the following questions and complete the tiebreaker. Send your entry on the back of a postcard or envelope to: The Express First Steps Compo, 29 Monmouth Street, Bath BA1 2BW to arrive no later than May 4 1991.

- 1) In the days of steam trains a word processor was called
- a) A secretary
- b) A typewriter
- c) A dictaphone
- d) A teleprinter
- 2) What computer language teaches us about shapes and list processing using a turtle as a cursor?
- a) Venezualan
- b) Pascal
- c) Basic
- d) LOGO
- 3) What peripheral could you use with Music Mouse?
- a) A trap
- b) MIDI keyboards
- c) Cheddar Cheese
- d) Video Toaster
- 4) What company is there a little of in all of us?
- a) Hollands Pies and Puddings
- b) The Audit Commission
- c) Frank Yonco and the Everglades
- d) Commodore

Complete the following in a humorous manner in no more than 12 words:

The bit of Commodore in me is .....

# MAKE SURE YOU GET A COPY OF NEXT WEEK'S EXPRESS

Complete this form and hand it to your newsagent

TO	THE NEWS	AGENT:	Please r	eserve	me	сору	/copies	of Ne	ew	
C	omputer	Expre.	ss every	week,	beginnin	g with issu	ue 129,	out or	n 25th April.	

NAME ..

ADDRESS

TELEPHONE NUMBER

To the newsagent: New Computer Express is published by Future
Publishing and is available from your local wholesaler. Send back all your Future
shop save coupons for entry in a free draw to: Kate Hodges, Future Publishing, 30
Monmouth Street, Bath BA1 28W.

# **COMING NEXT THURSDAY**

King of the WIMPs Which front-end is the best? - and how could yours be improved?

Canon's Ion
Is this the perfect camera
for use with computers?

The world's most powerful notebook A RISC-based sensation exclusively previewed

### PLU5

- Hot news
- Front End • Games Week
- Whole Wired World
- Tech Tips
   Circuit City
- Express On-line
- Express Moil
- The PD Column
- Programming
   Columns for: Amiga,
   Archimedes, CPC, C64,

Macintosh,PC, Spectrum and ST

AND

WIN a complete laptop system worth £500!!!



EDITOR Andy Storer
NEWS EDITOR • Colin Campbell
TECHNICAL EDITOR • Keith Pomfret
PRODUCTION EDITOR • Julie Tolley
ART EDITOR • Amanda Cook
SUPPLEMENTS EDITOR • Tim Smith
STAFF WRITER • Dave Golder
CONSULTANT EDITOR (GAMES) • Gary Penn

#### CONTRIBUTORS:

- Steve Gold + Jason Holborn
- Frank O'Connor Hadyn Fitz-Williams
- Mary Branscombe Robin Alway
- Ken Coumarin Andrew Roberts
   Andy Hutchinson Ian Wrigley
- Rod Lawton

CIRCULATION DIRECTOR • Sue Hartley
AD MANAGER • Helen Kirkhope
SENIOR AD EXECUTIVE • Cheryl Beesley
AD EXECUTIVES • Tim Partridge

Siobhan Kennedy-Coyne
 AD PRODUCTION • Frances Wasem
 AD TYPESETTING • Terry Mackereth
 PUBLISHER • Graeme Kidd

ABC audited circulation July-December 1990:20,204 copies per week
We regret we cannot enter into any personal correspondence. Technical enquiries should be addressed to Tech Tips at the address below. While every care is taken in the preparation of New Computer Express, Future

- Publishing cannot be held responsible for the consequences of any errors that may occur.

   Subscriptions: The Old Barn, Somerton, Somerset (0458) 74011
- Printed in Redwood Press, Melksham, Witts
  Distributed in UK and Eire by MMC Ltd (0483
  211222), rest of world by Comag (0895 444055)
- Future Publishing Ltd 1991 30 Monmouth Street, Bath BA1 2BW

# CONTACTS

Tel: 0225 442244 Fax: 0225 482018 E-mail: CIX @ astorer GOLD @ 84:TXT152 PRESTEL @011112623

# 'Your guarantee of value'

This magazine comes from Future Publishing, a company founded just six years ago, but which now sells more computer magazines than any other publisher in Britain. We offer:

Better advice. Our titles are packed with tips, suggestions and explanatory features, written by the best in the business.

Stronger reviews. We have a cast iron policy of editorial independence, and our reviews give clear buying recommendations.

Clearer design. You need solid information fast. So our designers highlight key elements by using charts, diagrams, summary boxes, annotated photographs, etc.

More reader interaction. We draw strongly on readers' contributions, resulting in the liveliest letters pages and the best reader tips. Buying one of our magazines is like joining a nationwide user group.

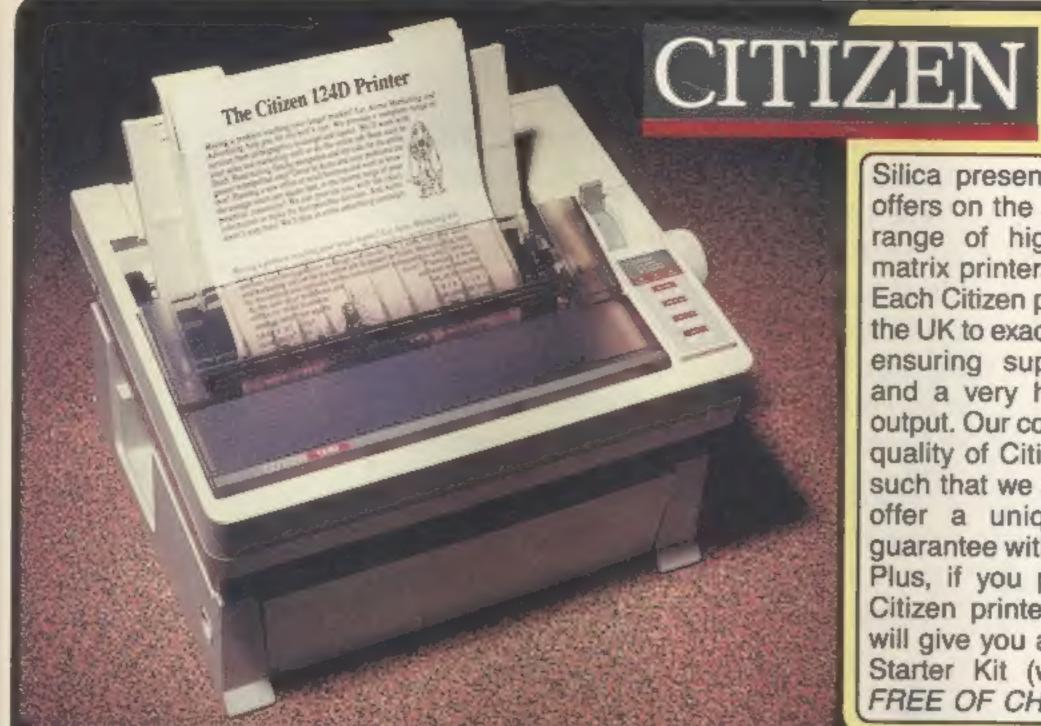
Better value for money. More pages, better quality: magazines you can trust.



Home of Britain's finest computer magazines.

Amstrad Action • 8000 Plus • PC Plus Amiga Format • ST Format New Computer Express • Your Sinclair

Commodore Format • Sega Power
Amiga Power • Amiga Shopper
MacPublishing



Silica presents some great offers on the award winning range of high quality dot matrix printers from Citizen. Each Citizen printer is built in the UK to exacting standards, ensuring superb reliability and a very high quality of output. Our confidence in the quality of Citizen printers is such that we are pleased to offer a unique two year guarantee with every printer. Plus, if you purchase your Citizen printer from us, we will give you a Silica Printer Starter Kit (worth £29.95), FREE OF CHARGE!

PRINTERS

Next Day - Anywhere in the UK mainland

Worth £29.95 - With every Citizen printer from Silica

Worth £39.95 - With Swift 9 and Swift 24 printers

Silica offer a 2 year warranty (including the printer head) with every Citizen printer purchased from Silica.



The Citizen 120D+ Is one of the UK's best selling printers. It has a stylish appearance and excellent features and performance for such an inexpensive printer. The 120D+ is available with either a serial or parallel interface and is an ideal first printer.

- 9-pin Printhead
- Print Speed 144cps Dreft
- 30cps NLQ
- Epson & IBM Graphics Emulation Pull Tractor & Bottom Feed
- Superior Graphics 240×216dpi
- FREE Starter Kit

RAP ..... £233.83 STARTER KIT .... £29.95 TUTAL RRP: \$283.78 SAVING: £112.20

SILICA PRICE: E151.58

# 9 PIN 144 CPS 24 PIN 192 CPS



The award winning Citizen 124D brings high quality 24-pin dot matrix printing within every computer users reach. It is the ideal choice where high quality printing is required at a budget price.

- 24-pin Impact Printer
- Print Speed 144cps Draft
- \* 2 LQ Fonts (48cps)
- · 8K Buffer
- Epson, IBM & NEC P6+ Emulation Advanced Paper Parking
- Superior Graphics 360x360dpl
- FREE Starter Kit

RRP ..... £292.58 STARTER KIT .... £29.95 TOTAL RRP: £322.53 SAVING: £112.20

SILICA PRICE: £210.33



The Citizen Swift 9 is perfect for those who require high quality dot matrix black or colour printing at a budget price. The print quality of Swift 9 rivals that of other manufacturer's 24-pin models.

- 9-pin Impact Printer
- Print Speed 192cps Draft
- 3 NLQ Fonts (48cps)
- · 8K Buffer ● Epson & IBM Graphics Emulation
- Advanced Paper Parking
- FREE Starter Kit

FREE Colour Kit

..... £280.83 STARTER KIT .... £29.95 COLOUR KIT .... £44.65 TOTAL RRP: £355.43

**SAVING: £133.35** SILICA PRICE: £222.08



The Citizen Swift 24 is one of Europe's best selling printers and has won awards including Printer Of The Year 1990. Its sapid print speed, quality and black or colour options, make it a natural choice.

- 24-pin impact Printer
- Print Speed 192cps Draft
- 4 NLQ Fonts (84cps) • 8K Buffer
- Epson, IBM & NEC P6+ Emulation
- Advanced Paper Parking
- FREE Starter Kit
- FREE Colour Kit

RRP ...... £428.88 STARTER KIT .... £29.95 COLOUR KIT ... £44.65 TUTAL RRP: £503.48 SAVING: £199.15

SILICA PRICE: E304.33

COLOUR



#### SHEET FEEDERS PRA 1200 1200 £71.38 PRA 1215 124D/Swift 9/24 . €88.70 PRA 1228 124D/Swift 9/24 ..... £42.00

SERIAL INTERFACES PRA 1189 1200+ ...... £56.45 PRA 1209 Swift 9/1240 ..... €32.25 PRA 1709 Swift 24 126.38

PRINTER STAND PRA 1242 124D/Swift 9/24 ..... £24.53 ORIGINAL RIBBONS RIB 3520 1200/Swift 9 Black ...... £4.11

RIB 3924 1240/Swift 24 Black ...... £4,70 COLOUR KITS

RIB 3936 Swift 9/24 Colour ...... £15.63 PRA 1236 Swift 9/24 ...... £39.65

All prices include VAT and Free delivery.

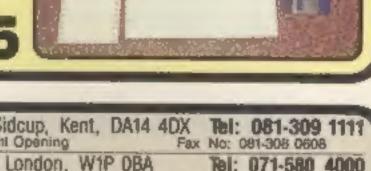
COLOUR

Every Citizen printer from Silica, comes complete with the Silica Printer Starter Kit, including everything you need to get up and running with your new printer immediately, FREE OF CHARGE!

- 3½" Dual Format Disk with Amiga & ST Printer Drivers
- 3½" Disk with Drivers for Microsoft Windows 3
- 2 Metre Parallei Printer Cable
- 200 Sheets of High Quality Continuous Paper
- 200 Continuous Address Labels on Tractor Feed 5 Continuous Envelopes on Tractor Feed

If you already own a printer, and would like a Silica Printer Starter Kit, you may order one (ref: KIT 5000) for the special Silica price of £24.95 - 65 off RRP!

NORMAL RAP



#### SYSTEMS **OFFERS**

- FREE OVERNIGHT COURIER DELIVERY: On all hardware orders shipped in the UK.
- TECHNICAL SUPPORT HELPLINE: Team of PC technical experts at your service.
- PRICE MATCH: We normally match competitors on a "Same product Same price" basis.
- ESTABLISHED 12 YEARS: Proven track record in professional computer sales. • £13M TURNOVER (with 60 staff): Solid and reliable with maintained growth.
- BUSINESS/EDUCATION/GOVERNMENT: Volume discounts available for large orders.
- SHOWROOMS: Demonstration and training facilities at our London & Sidcup branches.
- THE FULL STOCK RANGE: All of your PC requirements from one supplier.
- FREE CATALOGUES: Will be mailed to you with offers and software/peripheral details. PAYMENT: By cash, cheque and all major credit cards.

Before you decide when to buy your new printer, we suggest you think very carefully about WHERE you buy it. Consider what it will be like a lew months after you have made your purchase, when you may require additional peripherals or software, or some technical help and advice. And, will the company you buy from contact you with details of new products? At Silica Systems, we ensure that you will have nothing to worry about. Silica Systems is one of the UKs leading independent computer dealers and provides a quality service to users at home, in education and in business throughout the nation. Silica have been established for over 12 years, and have an annual turnover

of £13 million. With our unrivalled experience and expertise, we can now claim to meet our customers. requirements with an understanding which is second to none. But don't just take our word for it. Complete and return the coupon now, for our latest Free literature on the Citizen printer range and begin to experience the "Silica Systems Service"

MAIL ORDER: Order Lines Open:	Mon-Sat	The second secon	No Late I	Vight Opening		Fax: No	el: 081-309 o: 081-308 0608	1111
LONDON SHOP: Opening Hours:		9:30am-6:00pm		light Opening		Fax No	ol: 071-580 o: 071-323 4737	7
LONDON SHOP: Opening Hours:	Mon-Sat	Selfridges (1st 9.30am-6.00pm	Floor), Oxford : Late Nigh	Street, Lon it: Thursday o	don, W1A	IAB Te	on: 3914	1234
SIDCUP SHOP: Opening Hours:	Mon-Sat	1-4 The Mews, 9.00am-5.30pm	Hatherley Rd Late Nigh	Sidoup, No.	(ent. DA14 7pm	40X Te	el: 081-302 o: 081-309 0017	8811

To: Silica Systems, Dept NCE-0491-55, 1-4 The Mews, Hatherley Rd, Sidcup, Kent, DA14 4DX PLEASE SEND CITIZEN PRINTER INFORMATION
Mr/Mrs/Ms: Initials: Surname:
Address:
***************************************
Postcode:
Tel (Home): Tel (Work):
Company Name (if applicable):
Which computer(s), if any, do you own?  E&CE - Advertised prices and specifications may change - Please return the coupon for the latest information.

The New 1 Meg Amiga From Digicom

Following The Huge Success Of Our F-19 Digistar Offer, We At Digicom Are Proud To Present The Meanest Pack Available For The Amiga A500. This Unbeatable Deal Now Includes Commodore's Screengems Pack PLUS the A501 RAM/Clock Upgrade Plus Our Very Own Exclusive New Arcade Smash Hits Pack And The Chart Topping I Megabyte Version Of Kick Off 2!

Includes: Amiga A500 Computer 512K Keyboard PLUS A501 512K RAM/Clock Expansion Fitted To Give 1 Meg Memory Total

■ Built-in 1 megabyte DS/DD 3.5" Disk Drive ■ Multi-Tasking Operating System ■ Latest Kickstart And Workbench 1.3 ● Superb 4096 Colour Graphics Speech Synthesis 4 Channel Digital Stereo Sound Notepad Word Processor Commodore Mouse Plus 3 Owners Manuals Amiga Basic Program Language T.V Modulator And All Connecting Leads And Cables

AMIGA.

Plus This Great Software: Shadow Of The Beast 2 Days Of Thunder

● Back To The Future 2 ● NightBreed ● Deluxe Paint 2 Plus Exclusively to Digicom

Bring The Atmosphere Of The Arcade To Your Home With The Arcade Smash Hits Pack From Sega, Incorporating Five Of The Most **Exciting Games Around!** 

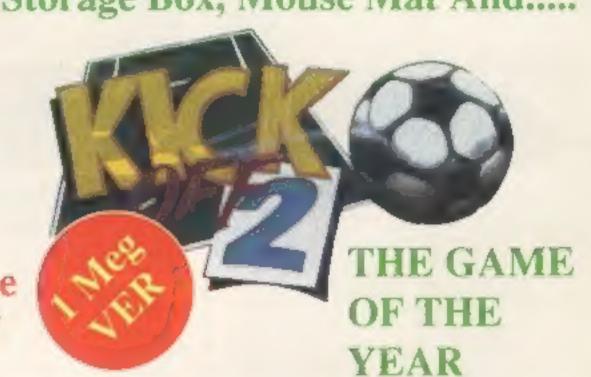
> Thunder Blade

Alien Syndrome Shinobi

After Burner

Plus: A High Quality Microswitched Joystick, Amiga Tailored Dustcover, 10 Blank Disks And

Disk Storage Box, Mouse Mat And.....



Notice: The Memory Upgrade Supplied With This Offer Is The Official Commodore A501 Ram Expansion Worth £99.00 ANY Alternative Expansion Unit Will Invalidate Your Warranty

# Complete Package Price Only

£399.00

1 Meg Amiga Screengems Pack (As detailed in the above offer) Plus The Superb Philips CM8833Mk2 Multipurpose Colour/Stereo Monitor

1 Meg Amiga Screengems Pack (As detailed in the above offer) PLUS

Free Amiga/8833 Lead And Monitor Dust Cover

Philips CM8833Mk2 (Colour/Stereo Monitor)

C Commodore

The New Amiga 1500 Is Here!

The Ultimate Personal Home Computer Designed To Cover Every Computing Requirement, From Business To Leisure And From Design To Education

Includes: 1500 CPU with One Megabyte of Memory:

Separate Keyboard: Additional Disk Drive Optional IBM Compatability 9 Expansion Slots Plus This Great Software THE WORKS PLATINUM EDITION

> **DELUXE PAINT 3** THEIR FINEST HOUR **BATTLE CHESS** SIMCITY+ TERRAIN EDITION POPULOUS SPECIAL

1500 System Only £679.00 1500 System With Philips 8833Mk11

£909.00

1500 System With Commodore 1084SD

Colour Monitor And 52MB Autoboot Hard Drive Only

Simply Write Down Your Order Postal Order, Bankers Draft Or Building Society Cheque Made Payable To "Digicom Computer Services Ltd".

All Prices Include VAT And FREE Delivery

Next Day Courier Delivery At £5.00 Extra

# 

36-37 Wharfside, Fenny Stratford, Watling Street Milton Keynes MK2 2AZ

Wharfside Is Opposite The Bridge Pub On The A5 Watling Street
Prices And Specifications Are Subject To Cleange Without Notice, E&DE

# Visit Our Showroom Open Mon-Sat 9.00am-5.30pm

# ☆ Digicom Offers You ☆

- → Free Catalogue (With All Orders)
- → Regular Newsletters And Special Offers.
- ★12 Month Guarantee On All Product
- → 30 day Replacement Of Faulty Product
- ☆ Technical Helpline
- All Product Tested Before Despatch
- → Price Or Product Match



(Personal Cheques Require Time To Clear Before Despatch) Phone Our 24 Hour Hot Line

 $(0908)\ 378008$ 8 Lines Open

Fax (0908) 379700 All Major Credit Cards Accepted